'Geagea assassination plot' revealed

BEIRUT (R) — A would-be assassin said Saturday he had given himself up to Lebanon's main rightist militia after deciding to abort an alleged plan to kill its leader with a carbomb. Fuad Rahbani, 32, told a news conference organised by the mainly Christian "Lebanese Forces" militia that he was offered \$250,000 to plant a carbomb to kill its leader Samir Geagea. He said his orders were to park a car loaded with 80 kilogrammes of explosive on a route Dr. Geagea was expected to take earlier this week. "As soon as I knew who the target was ... I decided to go along with the plan... to expose those behind it," he said, Mr. Rahbani, a civil engineer, accused Syria, former "Lebanese Forces" commander Elie Hobeika and ex-President Suleiman Franjieh's grandson Suleiman of being behind the alleged plot. He said he had given himself up with the booby-trapped car at a Lebanese Forces' checkpoint controlling access to the militia-run Christian enclave. Dr. Geagea, 35, is bitterly opposed to Syrian influence in Lebanon. He became "Lebanese Forces" leader in January 1986, ousting Mr. Hobeika two weeks after the latter signed a Syrian-backed peace pact for Lebanon with leftist militias.

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Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Cabinet abolishes fee on non-Jordanian

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet on Saturday decided, during its regular session, to abolish a JD 75 exit fee on non-Jordanian owned refrigerator trucks leaving the country with loads of Jordanian agricultural products in a move to promote exports. During the session the Cabinet approved the establishment of a joint Jordanian-Egyptian investment company and also approved the Aqaba Regional Authority's budget for 1987.

Temperature to rise

AMMAN (J.T.) — The depression currently affecting Jordan is expected to subside gradually on Sunday with a rise in tempera-ture, a spokesman for the Meteorology Department said Saturday. The spokesman said that a gradual increase of clouds of different levels was expected with a rise in temperature due to a warm front originating from Central Mediterranean.

Andreotti briefs Cossiga on coalition

ROME (R) — Prime Minister-designate Giulio Andreotti on Saturday briefed President Francesco Cossiga on the first round of his political consultations to try to form a new Italian government. Mr. Andreotti, 86, a Christian Democrat, has headed five previous governments and served as foreign minister under Prime Minister Bettino Craxi, who resigned on March 3. On Monday Mr. Andreotti begins a second round of consultations with political leaders on setting up another five-party coalition made up of Christian Democrats, Socialists, Republicans, Social-Democrats and Liberals.

5 timebombs explode in Tokyo

ploded nearly simultaneously Saturday at the offices of five companies involved in the construction of Tokyo's Narita airport, police said. One person was slightly injured in the explosions, police said. Chukakuha, a radical group opposed to the airport construction, claimed responsibility for the bombings at a rally in Tokyo Saturday night, Kyodo News Service reported. Police said the explosions occurred between 3:15 a.m. and 3:30 a.m. in Tokyo, Chiba, Saitama and Ibaragi, all in the Tokyo area. Police suspect radicals opposed to the airport since the targeted firms are all involved in the second phase of construction of the airport, a police official said. Local farmers and their supporters have been resisting the government's expropriation of farmland to expand the airport.

12 killed in Philippines violence

MANILA (AP) — Communis rebels ambushed a military truck in the southern Philippines on Saturday, killing eight people and wounding six others, military officials said. In a separate incident in Bulacan province just outside Manila, soldiers fatally shot four suspected insurgents as they allegedly tried to escape after overpowering two officers during an interrogation, the military

INSIDE

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- never made a program-
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 IMF chief says indus-
- aid poor states, page 7
 Kremlin assures Soviets that 'past mistakes will not be repeated,' page \$

Rifai: Jordan is back on course towards development and progress

Balance of trade has improved by JD 35m Gold and currency reserves stand at JD 822m • Liquidity has risen to 10.5 per cent

• Deposits in commercial banks total JD 2,000m AMMAN (J.T.) --- Prime Minister Zaid Rifai said Saturday that economic measures

adopted by the government over the past year had begun to bear fruit and the country was now back on the right course towards further development and progress.

Mr. Rifai said that the imports of the country fell to JD 850 million in 1986 from JD 1,072 million in the previous year and exports increased, thereby bringing about an improvement of about JD 35 million in the country's balance of

Mr. Rifai said that the country's reserves of gold and foreign currency stood at JD 822 million, up from JD 781 million in the previous year; Jordanian expatriates transfers to the Kingdom increased from JD 402 million in

In a wide-ranging interview 1985 to JD 415 million in 1986, with the chief editors of the Al and that liquidity increased inside Ra'i and Al Dustour newspapers, the Kingdom from 6.6 per cent in 1985 to 10.5 per cent in 1986.

According to the prime minister, the gross national product in Jordan, at fixed prices, increased from 3.2 per cent in 1985 to 3.7 per cent in 1986, the growth in commercial banks' deposits rose from nine per cent in 1985 to 11.5 per cent in 1986, credit facilities offered to the private sector in the country rose from 7.6 per cent in 1985 to 9.5 per cent in 1986 and that inflation dropped from three per cent in 1985 to zero in 1986. According to the prime minister,

zt An N

tum to explain remarks by Presi-

dent Francois Mitterrand. "Be-

cause Mitterrand's statements

were not explained, we have de-

ciared war on France and put (Jean-Louis) Normandin on trial

and will announce his execution

long-standing Iranian loan.

The kidnappers' statement

ame with a colour photograph of

The Revolutionary Justice

"We have no special arrange-

Organisation issued no fresh

word on his condition or where-

ments regarding the French hos-

tage. We have no information on

him," police chief Osman Osman

Normandin, bearded and wearing

a blue track suit and T-shirt.

within 48 hours," it said.

the volume of trade at the Amman Financial Market rose significantly, and in the first two months of 1987 it registered an increase of 182 per cent over the 1986 average figure.

Following is the text of the inter-

Question: The government has worked out a new elections law. When does the government plan to put it into force, and does the government plan to dissolve Parament to pave for a new elec-

Answer: The new election law has not been suspended and it will be put into force once the mandate of the present Parliament is over and after a new election is held. The present mandate of Parliament ends by 16.1.1988 and the constitution provides for a new election in the four months that precede the date of the termination of this mandate; that is to say that a new election should be held



before the end of this year if the present mandate is not extended. The King is empowered by the

constitution to extend the mandate for one or two extra years. If this does not happen then the election should be held before the end of 1987. It is true that the last election was held 20 years ago but by-elections were held over the past period and 18 people were elected representing the West

Bank and 11 new deputies were elected representing the East Bank. This means that there is a total of 29 new deputies, nearly half the House, now sitting in

O: Does the government plan to recommend an extension of this

A: It is premature to discuss this subject. As I said, unless the King extends Parliament's mandate then the election has to be held before the end of the year. Q: Since Amman has been ex-tended to include other municipalities, does the government plan to consider municipal elections within the whole of the Greater

Amman area? A: Of Course, the government plans to do that and there will be elections for the Amman city proper and for the other municipalities included within the Greater Amman region. As you know,

(Continued on page 3)

Syrians supervise relief supplies to Bourj Al Barajneh

BEIRUT (R) — Syrian officers supervised the entry of U.N. re-lief supplies into a beleaguered Palestinian refugee camp in southern Beirut on Saturday.

Eyewitnesses said two Syrian military observers stood at the edge of Bouri Al Barajneh with officials of the Shi'ite Amal militia as three U.N. trucks drove slowly along a muddy, shell-cra-tered road into the camp of at least 12.000 Amal lifted a siege of Bourj Al

Barajneh and its sister camp of Shatila on Feb. 18 after a fourand-a-half month camps' war in Beirut and South Lebanon left some 850 people dead.

A spokeswoman for the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UN-RWA) said the trucks were loaded with 27 tonnes of food and 50 kilogrammes of medical sup-Sic said UNRWA handed an

ec valent amount of food, don-

ated by the World Food Programme, to Amal for Shi'ites living nearby — the condition for some previous deliveries to the camps. Shi'ite Lebanese army troops stood by, but there was no sign of Amal fighters. Shi ite forces have continued to restrict access to Bourj Al Barajneh and Shatila

troops nearby Over 7,000 Syrian troops moved into west Beirut on Feb. 22, but staved clear of the camps

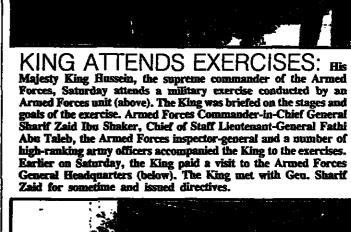
and adjacent Shi'ite areas. This was the third UNRWA convoy to reach Bourj Al Barajneh since Amal announced the hifting of the siege. Two convoys organised by Iranian mediators and one by pro-Syrian Palesti-nians have also entered the camp since then.

The witnesses said UNRWA's assistant field health officer Ali Dakwar, who is a Palestinian doctor, accompanied the trucks to inspect damage to the camp's only medical facility.

Amal says it wants to stop Palestinians from regaining the strength they had before Israel's 1982 invasion.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), which has accused Amal and Syria of seeking to drive refugees out of Lebanon. has urged the United Nations to take action to halt shelling of the shantytowns and relieve suffering

in Beirut but has doubts, page 2 But a spokesman for the ship's was unlikely, he said.





Iraqi paper predicts major Iranian assault

Iraqi army newspaper Al Qadi- Iraqis siya said it expected Iran to launch a major offensive a week from Saturday to mark the end of the Iranian year.

The newspaper, in an editorial, promised the Iraqi people their armed forces would "defeat the aggressors on March 21, after which they (the Iranians) would be left with nothing to tell their own people."

Iran has threatened to launch a decisive offensive in the six-anda-half-year war before the end its calendar year on March 21. But Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi said recently this might be extended to the next 12 months.

Iranian forces are lodged on Iraqi territory, some of them only about 10 kilometres east of the southern port city of Basra, following a ground attack launched

Diplomats in Baghdad and Tehran have said Iran has some 200,000 troops massed near Basra. The Iraqi government has tankers for Iraq-bound goods in denied this, saying tens of the Strait of Hormuz on the thousands of Iranian troops are southern entrance of the Gulf.

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — The facing hundreds of thousands of

U.S. 'warned Iran'

In another development, the American TV CBS said Friday that the United States had warned Iran not to fire newly installed missiles at ships in the

The network's Pentagon correspondent said the Iranians had installed about a dozen surfaceto-surface missiles in sites one U.S. intelligence officer said would allow them to shoot at

passing tankers.

The report did not say if Washington planned any response if the missiles were fired. U.S. officials declined comment on the report.

Merchant vessels in the Gulf have frequently been targets in the war between Iran and Iraq. Iran's official IRNA news agency said Friday that Iranian naval forces intercepted and searched seven cargo ships and oil

Confusion prevails over death toll in ferry disaster BRUSSELS (R) -- Conflicting owners Townsend Thoresen at

death toils from last week's car Zeebrugge told Reuters by tele-ferry disaster cansed confusion on phone the company stood by its Saturday with Belgian Transport figures of 409 survivors, 55 dead Minister Herman de Croo saying of which 49 had been identified the number of victims could be and 79 people missing. over 200 while the ship owners maintain the figure is 134.

Mr. De Croo said on Flemish obtained official figures from maritime authorities which said England. 45 people died and about 164 were missing after the British ferry Herald of Free Enterprise sank off the Belgian port of Zeebrugge last Friday.

The minister told parliament on Friday the number rescued from the wreck was only 349 and

not 409 as reported. Mr. De Croo said Saturday the discrepancy was due to the fact

that children under four years old were not on the passenger list and other people may have boarded the ship unnoticed. Some passengers who escaped

had been counted twice in the confusion on Friday evening, boosting the rescued total, as emergency services fought to save more lives, he added.

The ferry still lies on its side in 12 metres of water just outside Zeebrugge harbour where it Radio on Saturday he had heeled over after filling with water on its way to Dover in southeast The Townsend Thoresen

spokesman said Mr. De Croo was right in saying that children under four years of age were normally not registered on the passenger

But Townsend Thoresen based its figures on a head-count taken by its staff when people were entering rescue boats.

The spokesman said he could not rule out the possibility mentioned by Mr. De Croo that other people may have been taken onto

the ship in secret by truck drivers. But before issuing figures, the company had checked them very

carefully and the huge gap in the number of people aboard given by the minister and the company

death threat ultimatum BEIRUT (Agencies) — A Kidnappers issue French television technician held hostage in Lebanon was facing a death threat on Saturday after new statement BEIRUT (R) — The undergro

France dismissed a 48-hour ultimatum from his kidnappers.

The pro-Iranian Revolutionary Revolutionary Justice Organisa-tion said Saturday is had declared war on France and a French Justice Organisation said it would hostage it held faced trial and "put on trial and execute" Jean-Louis Normandin unless French execution within 48 hours. The TOKYO (AP) — Timebombs ex- | Prime Minister Jacques Chirac handwritten statement, delivered explained remarks by President newspaper, said the pro-framian group had made the move after Paris dismissed a 48-hour ultima-Francois Mitterrand within 48

The group's hand-written state-ment, which contained no specific deadline, was delivered to an international news agency in Beirut at about 1200 GMT

hours.

In Paris, Mr. Chirac's spokesman Denis Baudouin said Friday that France would "pursue the fight against terrorism, from wherever it comes and in whatever form it manifests itself."

Mr. Normandin, 35, was seized on March 8 last year with three other crewmen of the Antenne-2 television station after filming a rally of Iranian-backed Hizbollah (Party of God) militants in southern Beirut. His three colleagues have since been freed.

Bandonin said the French government protested vigorously against the detention of Normandin and other French hostages, and held their captors responsible for their fate.

He said France still desired better relations with Iran and a senior French official reported

progress in talks on repayment of ican Terry. Anderson. China to join arms talks

after U.S.-Soviet accord VIENNA (AP) — A high lisation of international relations, Chinese official was quoted BTA reported.

Saturday as saying Peking may join international negotiations aimed at eliminating nuclear weapons provided the United States and the Soviet Union reach agreement first.

The official Bulgarian news agency BTA, in a dispatch from the capital of Sofia, said Chinese Foreign Minister Wu Xneqian made the satement Friday on arrival in Bulgaria from Poland for an official visit.

Mr. Wu, on a seven-nation European tour, met with his Bulgarian counterpart Peter Mladeny on Friday and discussed topics of international interest including the recent Soviet proposal to eliminate medium-range nuclear missiles from Europe, according to BTA, which is monitored in Vienna.

The two ministers were also reported to have noted "the great significance" of the Soviet offer. In their talks, the two men emphasised the importance of the superpower arms talks in Geneva for the improvement and stabi-

Meanwhile, in Washington, the United States appealed for the release of foreign hostages in Lebanon ahead of second anniversary on Monday of the

said Saturday.

abouts on Saturday.

The news agency quoted Mr. Wn as saying that if the United States and the Soviet Union

reached an agreement on the climination of nuclear weapons, China, as a nuclear power, would be prepared to join international negotiations at a later stage to complete the removal of all such

Mr. Wu, who started his European tour in Czechoslovakia. was also scheduled to visit West Germany, Italy, San Marino and Switzerland.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's Feb. 28 proposal has raised hopes that Moscow and Washington could agree by the end of the year to scrap the European missiles and cut their numbers in Soviet Asia.

In another development, the United States has charged that the Soviet Union on numerous occasions over the past 10 years has released radioactive gas and debris into the atmosphere as a result of anciear tests.



EVICTED FROM HOME: After living in Jerusalem's Arab quarter for over 50 years, the Karakie family (above) were evicted by Israeli police on Wednesday. Rashad Karakie, 33, head of the family, said the Israeli authorities took this action because all presions of both by Louisian at the state of the said of because all previous efforts by Jewish settlers to buy the house from him or harass the family out of the neighbourhood had failed. The Israeli justice ministry refused to comment to the Jerusalem Post regarding the case. At roughly 5:30 a.m. Wednesday, about 50 police and border police gathered in the area to evict Mr. Karakie, his wife Lulu, his 75-year-old mother-in-law Mahadia and his six children. They were all driven outside, their furniture carted away and the door nafied shut. Mr. Karakle said his mother-in-law was taken by the Israeli authorities and he did not know where she is. Mr. Karakie vowed that he and his family will live in the street in protest. "We will sleep here," he said, "We have no other choice."

'U.S. and Israel had agreement not to spy'

TEL AVIV (AP) — A former Israeli foreign ministry official said Saturday the Pollard spyepisode violated a formal agreement between Israel and the United States not to spy on each

Shlomo Avineri, a leading Israeli academic and former director-general of the foreign ministry, said that the agreement between the two allies had existed for several years.

Avincri's comments indicated a two countries than had previously

Until now, officials had refer red only to an unspoken understanding between Israel and the United States that they would not engage in espionage activity

understanding between the United States and Israel not to spy on one another, " Avineri said in a telephone interview.

saying only "it has been in existence for some years." "The Pollard episode was in clear violation of that agree-

ment," Avineri said,

Pollard, 32, a former U.S. navy intelligence analyst, was sent-enced last week to life in prison despite the presence of Syrian for selling Isrel classified U.S. military information. His wife, Anne Henderson-Pollard, 26. was given a five-year prison term

for her role in the spy affair.

The Pollard epsiode has deeply strained relations between the two allies. Israeli analysts say they fear the affair may harm U.S. aid to the Jewish state, which now totals about \$3 billion. or U.S. intelligence cooperation.

American officials were parti-

cularly angered by the recent promotions of Aviem Sella, an air force official who recruited Pollard, and Rafael Eitan, a former intelligence officer. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres

"We simply made a mistake,"

Peres said he was confident the government's decision last Wednesday to appoint a two-man investigatory panel to probe the Pollard case would defuse rising

admitted Friday the government had erred in promoting Colonel

out the promotions. '

Washington welcomes Syrian role

Stop bleeding sharehold-

• Can an accountant who me run the BBC, page 5

• Watford beats Arsenal,

trialised nations should

capture of the longest held Amer-

more official arrangement concerning espionage between the been assumed to exist.

against each other. "There has been a formal"

Avineri refused to elaborate on details of the agreement, including whether it was written form,

Sella to head an important air force base and Eitan to head the state-owned Israel Chemicals Co. Peres said in an interview on Israel Television when asked ab-

tensions with the United States.

TASS: Washington tried 'crude provocation' in Iran

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet News Agency TASS on Saturday reported an Iranian leader's claim that U.S. envoys tried to convince Tehran a Soviet invasion was planned, and called Washington's report "a deliberate crude provocation."

vention.

Iranian Parliament Speaker Hashemi Rafsanjani said during a weekly prayer sermon carried by the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) on Friday that American officials, whom he did not name, had shown Iranians satellite photographs purported to show Soviet troops amassed near the Soviet-Iran border.

Former U.S. National Security Adviser Robert McFarlane and other officials made secret trips to Iran last year to arrange arms sales, negotiate for the release of Americans held hostage in Lebanon and explore the possibility of

improving relations. According to White House memos printed in the Tower Commission report on the Irancontra arms deal, one purpose of the Ameican visit to Tehran last May was to deliver an intelligence report on Soviet military deploy-

"The U.S. officials were trying to convince Tehran that the 'Soviets intended to unleash a war' against Iran and presented a map showing 'specific directions of Soviet invasion'," TASS said in its commentary titled "Washington's fresh malicious in-

"Washington's inventions can be evaluated only as a deliberate crude provocation, a clumsy attempt at ascribing to the Soviet Union aggressive and hegemonistic aims pursued by the United

TASS said the Soviet Union was one of the first to recognise the Iranian revolution and condemn alleged U.S. interference in domestic affairs in the Islamic

"It is not the Soviet Union, but the United States, which is preparing for armed interference in the (Arabian) Gulf," TASS said.
"Washington is holding secret talks with a number of states of the region on the deployment in their territory of units from among the interventionist Rapid Deployment Force."

The Soviet Union claims it has remained neutral in the Iran-Iraq war, which broke out in September 1980. Western sources. however, say the Kremlin is Iraq's major arms supplier.

Soviet media have condemned the covert U.S. sale of arms to Iran as interference in the Gulf

The TASS commentary on Mr. Rafsanjani's speech made no mention of the hostage situation in Lebanon or the goals of the secret U.S. visits to Iran last year. Mr. Rafsanjani said Friday, the U.S. warning was intended to undermine Soviet-Iranian relations, "involve us in a war with our northern neighbour" and divert Iranian troops from the bat-

tlefront with Iraq. In Washington, State Department spokesman Charles Redman would not comment on the

Arab-American leader to sue U.S. government for seizing passport

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The leader of an Islamic-American organisation, whose passport was seized because he defied a ban on travel to Lebanon, has said he will file suit against the U.S. government to regain the

D.T.Mehdi, secretary general of the National Council on Islamic Affairs, said in a telephone interview from New York that he will ask the U.S. district court in Washington next week to order the return of the passport. First, Dr. Mehdi said, he will

try to meet Secretary of State George Shultz or a representative Monday to make a personal plea for return of the passport. The State Department, to keep

Americans out of Lebanon, announced on Jan. 28 that U.S. passports would no longer be valid for travel to that country. partment said it ordered Dr.

GEORGETOWN, Guy

America.

East or West.

- The Non-Aligned Movement

has condemned what it called

U.S. aggression against Nicar-

agua and said both South Africa

and Israel were supporting U.S. military policy in Central

"Nicaragua has been the victim

of a cruel, unfair and unequal war

imposed upon it by the most powerful country in the world,"

said a statement issued at the end

of a three-day conference here of

nations which describe them-

selves as not aligned with either

U.S., Israel condemned

for role in C. America

Dr. Mehdi, who had been in Lebanon in December on what he said was a negotiating effort on behalf of U.S. hostages, returned to Beirut in early February on a similar mission.

The effort was unsuccessful and Dr. Mehdi left on Feb. 19 after he was robbed by gunmen at his Beirut hotel.

No action was taken against him when he returned to New York from that trip. But last week when Dr. Mehdi arrived at Newark International Airport from a brief visit to London, U.S. customs agents seized his pass-port at the request of the State Department.

Dr. Mehdi, 59, said he was born in Baghdad, Iraq and became a U.S. citizen in 1983.

needed for a peaceful settlement"

Mehdi's passport seized "determine if it has been used improperly" and did not know if it would be returned.

> The State Department said that Dr. Mehdi had violated a ban on travel to Lebanon.

Dr. Mehdi contends that the ban on travel to Lebanon is unconstitutional. He defied a similar ban on travel to Libya last

A State Department spokes-man, Laura Jehl, said that Dr. Mehdi's passport had been confiscated as evidence that he violated the ban on travel to

"It doesn't matter when we take it from him, once he's used it," she said. "The fact is, even if they don't catch you right when you've done it, the passport's still

Police thwart **Palestinian** meeting "Georgetown Peace Appeal," in Munich, urged Washington to "coutribute to the creation of conditions

arrest 7 in Central America. In a separate final communi-MUNICH (R) - Police have que, the conference "called upon the government of the United sealed off an area of Munich to prevent a meeting called to dis-States of America to immediately cuss Palestinian revolution and detained seven people, two on suspicion of supporting a "terror-ist organisation," police said. cease all pressures and acts of aggression against Nicaragua." Both documents were issued

early Friday after drawn-out dis-About 300 police took part in cussions in which moderate memthe operation, which followed a ber states argued against a court ban on the meeting, a stridently anti-American tone. spokesman said.

Iran to get U.S. computers from

Europe

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — An official of Iran's government news service has said the agency had concluded an agreement to buy U.S.-made computers with European firms and not American companies.

The Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), monitored in Nicosia, quoted the official as saying claims that these computers may be used for military pruposes were ridiculous and

The official, who was not named, blamed "difference of interest of the power factions in the U.S." for a propaganda cam-paign on the proposed sale, the agency said.
U.S. Commerce Secretary

Malcolm Baldrige and Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger are at odds over a proposal to sell \$1.4 million worth of equipment containing U.S. made computers to Iran. Mr. Baldrige is for the sale, and Mr. Weinberger is

against it.
The computers in the proposed sale were made by the U.S.-based Digital Equipment Corp.

The IRNA official said the agreement with European firms to purchase the PDP Digital computers was concluded long ago, the agency said. He did not give any specific date not name the

The computers in question have been on the market for several years and are available in Europe and that is why "we have opted for this type," IRNA quoted the official as saying.

Cyprus holds 2 Lebanese women after drug finds

would sign a defence and economic cooperation agreement with LARNACA, Cyprus (R) — A court Saturday ordered a 19-year-Turkey on Monday, but took care to say it also remained committed to improved relations with old Lebanese woman held after police said they found one kilogramme of heroin hidden in her Secretary of State George corsets at Lamaca Airport.
Zeina Nagih Eid, who arrived Shultz will sign an exchange of

in Larnaca by ferry from the Lebanese port of Jounieh, had been planning to go to Australia via Abu Dhabi, police said. She

Another woman, 60-year-old Chahid Moukbel Terkeman, was ordered held by the court Friday after police said they found a similar amount of heroin in her corsets at the airport on Thursday.

Neither woman has been normally charged but both were ordered held for eight days while police made further investigations, court sources said.

Police said Turkeman had arhave been postponed, making the Turkish minister's visit all the rived on the same ferry as Eid and also had been going to Australia, but by way of Muscat. more conspicuous.

Senators voice impatience at pace of Iran probe

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The leaders of the Senate committee investigating the Iran-contra controversy expressed impatience at the pace of independent counsel Lawrence Walsh's probe into the case.

Sen. Daniel Inouye, the committee chairman, said it took Mr. Walsh several weeks to complete his interrogation of Fawn Hall, former secretary to Lt.-Col. Oliver North, and then make her available to congressional investigators for questioning.

"Now I'm certain he has his own way of doing his business but at times we find it a bit difficult to appreciate his need for five, six, seven weeks to question a witness," said Sen. Inouye. The Democratic senator's own committee has been subjected to criticism that it was moving too quickly toward granting key witnesses limited immunity from prosecution in order to compel their testimony.

The panel's top Republican, Sen. Warren Rudman, noted in the same interview that the Senate committee doesn't "need anyone's approval to do what we're doing and we don't intend to seek it. We intend to cooperate to the extent that we can and fulfill our responsibilities."

One Senate official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Senate investigators agreed either in late January or early February to permit Mr. Walsh to question Ms. Hall before they did. This official said Mr. Walsh notified congressional investigators within the past several days that he had completed his interrogation and

they were free to proceed... In apparent anticipation of this timetable, Mr. Walsh wrote the committees in late February that

WASHINGTON (R) — The Un-

ited States has announced it

letters on the accord with Turkish

Foreign Minister Vahit Halefog-

ha, due in Washington on March

15-19 at Mr. Shultz' request,

State Department spokesman Charles Redman said Friday.

Mr. Redman told reporters the

letters would be made public af-

ter they are signed. The accord is

separate from an agreement on U.S. bases in Turkey which was

U.S. military aid to Turkey.

As a result, exchanges between

signed last year.

defence

Turkey

he had no objection to their granting the woman limited immunity. The committees voted to give her immunity in late February, allowing the mandatory 10day waiting period to end at about the same time Mr. Walsh

finished his questioning. Earlier in the week, Mr. Walsh appealed to both the House of Representatives and Senate committees to delay for 90 days any decision to grant immunity to Col. North and Rear Adm. John Poindexter, President Ronald Reagan's former national security

Lawyers for both committees and aides to Mr. Walsh are attempting to work out a compromise on the issue, but no decision is expected for several

One congressional source said Senate investigators were discussing, among possible compromise proposals, a plan for the committees to conduct interviews in closed sessions with those two witnesses and withhold their public interrogation for the 90 days sought by Mr. Walsh.

In a related development Friday, 42 House Democrats urged that the House panel investigating the Iran-contra affair give full study to a private network set up with Reagan administration encouragement to resupply Nicaragua's contra rebels. In a letter to Representative

Lee Hamilton, chairman of the House Committee, the lawmakers cited allegations that the private aid network may have violated U.S. arms export laws or the neutrality act, which prohibits hostile action against any country with which the United States is formally at peace.

The congressional committees

voted earlier in the week to provide limited immunity to Albert Hakim, a businessman believed to have extensive knowledge and records pertaining to the financial arrangements involved in the secret sale of arms to Iran and apparent diversion of profits to the contra rebels fighting the pending in Congress.

Mr. Reagan houself moved Pri-Nicaragua government.

Sen. Rudman said the Senate committee has been in contact with Hakim's attorney. Other officials expressed confidence that within the next four to six weeks the committee will have acquired extensive knowledge of the financial arrangements, prompting speculation that congressional investigators expect a cooperative witness once immunity has been provided.

Mr. Walsh has informed congressional investigators he will use his prerogative of delaying any limited immunity grant to Hakim for 30 days.

Neither Sen. Inouye nor Sen. Rudman criticised Mr. Walsh for his actions regarding Hakim, but both men made it clear they wish the independent cunsel could move more quickly in his own investigation.

They said there were several examples but cited only the case of Ms. Hall.

The White House has acknowedged the Iran affair will be with it for a long time but said President Reagan and his aides would focus on other issues and leave the arms scandal to investigators.

In a pep talk to administration supporters Friday, new White House Chief of Staff Howard

Baker said Mr. Regan's last two years in office were "not going to be caretaker years."

and seem relieved someone else

has taken on the task of stopping

chaos in a country they have called the key to Middle East

"Really, there's nothing we can

The State Department has de-

do in Lebanou," one U.S. offi-

cial, who asked not to be identi-

clined to criticise Syria's interven-tion and has emphasised the re-sponsibility assumed by the gov-ernment of President Hafez Al

fied, told Reuters.

after presidential spokesman Marlin Fitzwater told reporters Mr. Reagan and his top sides were focusing on such matters as arms talks with the Soviet Union, a review of "Star Wars" missale defence plans and legislation

day to scotch talk of raising taxes to trim the federal deficit as House speaker Jim Wright and others in the Democratic-led Congress have suggested.

Saying his determination to

veto any tax increase remained rock solid," Mr. Reagan added; "All these tax hike schemes have as much chance of flying as a dead duck."

Asked if the president believed he had put the Iran affair behind him, Fitzwater replied: "No. The Iran scandal continues to be investigated by the (special prosecutor). There will be hearings by the House and Senate select

"All indications are that these will go on for several mouths," he

But Fitzwater added: "It's not something that occupies much time in the White House deliberations.'

Meanwhile lawyers for Col. North said Friday they would appeal against the dismissal of his lawsuit challenging the special prosecutor's investigation of the

Iran arms scandal. Federal Judge Barrington Parker Friday threw out Col. North's lawsuit seeking to halt the criminal investigation by Mr. Walsh, Lawyers for Col. North Friday

filed a notice that they planned to appeal against Judge Parker's ruling to the U.S. court of appeals in

U.S. to sign Washington welcomes Syrian role in Beirut but has doubts on outcome accord with rowed their foreign policy focus

By Carol Giacomo

WASHINGTON --- The Reagan administration, whose forces failed to bring peace to Lebanon, publicly welcomes Syria's intervention in Beirut but neither the U.S. government nor private analysts believe it is a long-term

They are pessimistic that Syria - or anyone else except perhaps the Lebanese - can restore permanent order to a country so torn by civil war.

Syria deployed 7,000 soldiers into the mainly Muslim sector of the Lebanese capital last month in an effort to halt militia vio-

In 1983, when U.S. Marines were stationed in Beirut as part of a Multi-National Force, President Reagan called Lebanon a vital U.S. interest.

The visit takes place at a time when relations between Athens pressure from Congress, abanand Washington have cooled over doned a high-profile, active role after a guerrilla bombing killed 230 servicemen in October 1983. senior U.S. and Greek officials Today, as they struggle to overcome the scandal created by U.S.

arm sales to Iran, Mr. Reagan

and his administration have nar-

"We'll see what they can do. If order can be brought, that would be a positive development," told Congress.

But the administration, under win their release.

The United States is being cau-

Ambulance 193, 775111 Amman downtown fire brigade 198

The Syrian intervention "could be good if it brought peace, but the history of Lebanon is such that foreign forces never calmed factional disputes," he said. Mr. Shultz and other officials

— who once were deeply in-volved in trying to fashion a peace settlement for Lebanon have in recent mouths squarely put ultimate responsibility for the future on Lebanon itself. "There will be no end to it until

the people of Beirut and Lebanon as a whole take up their responsibilities as a civilised community to overcome the chaos and factional strife," the State Depart-

William Quandt, acting direc-The attitude seems particularly sanguine, given that Syria is the Brookings Institution, a private Soviet Union's closest Middle research organisation, said one research organisation, said one East ally.

At least 25 foreigners, including nine Americans, are held crack down on Hizbollah, a prohostage in Lebanon by guerrilla Iranian, anti-American group groups and some U.S. officials that has become increasingly and analysts hope the Syrians can powerful among the Lebanese

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TV & RADIO

22:60 23:66 23:57

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19 Kocan Programme Review
Heath Cliff
A Whole World of Children

17:30 Local Agricultural Programme
Local Series 18:15 Local Programme Programme Review News in Arabic 20:00 20:30 21:30 .. Araic series Aract series
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Tomorrow's programmes
TV Magazine (Arabic)
News summary in Arabic
Arabic Scries

PROGRAMME TWO .. Les Cinq demieres News in French Prehade a la mit Varieties News in Arabic
Who's the Boss 21:10 The Day the Universe Changed
22:00 News in English
22:20 Spearfield's Daughter

RADIO JORDAN 855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 9560 KHz, SW Tel: 774111-19

07:30	Newsdesk
8A-88	Morning Show
10:00	News Summary
10.05	Pop Session
77-66	In Concert
12:00	News Summary
12:05	Pop Talk
13-00	News Summer
13-45	Pon Session conto
14:40	Pop Session contd. News Bulletin
14-18	Instrumentals
14-15	Science Report
	Concert Hour
	News Summary
	Instrumentals
165.50	Old Favourites
17:40	Listeners' Choice
18:00	News Summary
18:05	Jazz Hour
	Newsdesk
	Date with a Star
	Evening Show
21:00	News Summary
21:05	Evening Show continued
21:55	News Summary

... Close Down BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

06:00 Newsdeak 06:30 Folk Entertains 06:45 Reflections 06:50 Financial Re-view 07:00 World News 07:49 24 Hours: News Sammary 07:30 Patrick Martin's Music Box 07:45 Letter from America 08:00 Newsdeak 08:30 Choirs of Britain 09:00 World News 09:89 24 Hours: News Summary 89:39 From Our Own Correspondent 89:39 Wave-guide 10:30 World News 10:39 Reflections 10:15 The Pleasure's Yours 11:30 World News 11:39 British Press Review 11:15 Science in Action 11:45 At Harma with 11:46 News 11:45 At view 11:15 Science in Action 11:45 At Home with.... 12:60 News Summary; Short Story 12:15 Classical Record Review 12:30 Religious Service 13:60 World News 13:60 News About Britain 13:15 From Our Own Correspondent 13:35 At the Court of... 14:50 News Summary; An Ideal Husband 14:30 Play of the Week Intimate Exchanges 15:60 World News 15:69 24 Home: News Summary 15:30 Snorts Roundon 15:80 World News 15:89 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sports Roundup 15:45 The Sandy Jones Request Show 16:30 Play: Jude the Obscure 17:80 Radio Newsreel 17:15 Concert Hall 18:80 World News 18:89 Commentary 18:15 AIDS Phone-in 18:45 Letter from America 19:80 World News 19:89 Reflections 19:15 Meridian 19:45 Sports Roundup 28:80 Newsreet

FI2HIGLIGM9.3VOICE OF AMER-ICA MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 1174, 11925 and 15210 Hz

05:00 News 05:10 VOA Morning 05:30 85:00 News 05:10 VOA Morning 05:30 News Summary/VOA Morning 06:00 News 06:10 VOA Morning 07:00 News Summary/VOA Morning 07:30 News 97:10 VOA Morning 08:00 News 07:10 VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 Focus 08:30 News Summary/VOA Morning 17:00 News 17:10 New Horizons and New Products 17:30 Stadio One 18:00 News 18:10 Encounter 18:10 Special Fundish News & Restumes 18:30 Special English News & Features 19:00 News 19:10 Critic's Choice 19:30 Issues in the News 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 Special English News & Features 21:00 News 21:10 Sunday Report 21:30 Music USA Standards 22:00 News & Editorial 22:15 The Concert Hall 23:00 News 23:10 New Florizons and New Products 23-38 Str.

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

A fine arts exhibition by Egyptian artist Rifqi Razzaz at the Royal Cultu-ral Centre (until March 15).

* An exhibition of oil paintings by Mrs. Houriyya Laraki at the Petra Bank Gallery — Wadi Saqra (until Manch

PLAY

* Arabic plays for children daily at 10:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. at the Royal

CULTURAL CENTRES

...... 644371 641520 636147/8 Goethe Institute
Soviet Cultural Centre
Spanish Cultural Centre
Turkish Cultural Centre . 624049 Haya Arts Centre Hussein Youth City 667181/6 Y.W.C.A.

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Maseum," Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Cosed on Friday. Felidore Museum: Jewelry and cosmunes over 100 years old. Also mosaies from Makha and Jemet (4th to 10th). from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m.-5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760. Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antian excellent collection of the anti-quities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9.00 a.m.-5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays. Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim coun-

WHAT'S GOING ON tries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Munta-zah, Jahal Laweihdeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.00 p.m.-6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. Martyrs' Memorial (Military Messum): Collection of military memorabilis dating from the Arab Rovolt of 1916. Sports City, Amusa. Opening hours 9.00 a.m. 4.00 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.

SERVICE CLUBS

Lians Amman Chib. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Holiday Inn., 1:30 p.m.
Lians Philadelphia Chib. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Anumon Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia Retary Chib. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn., 1:30 p.m.
Retary Club. Meetings every Tuesday Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the Interconfinental Hotel, 2.00 p.m. Reyal Automobile Club, Jabel Am-man, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.

CHURCHES

St. Jeseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590. Church of the Ammaniation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Laweibdeh, Tel. Catholic) Jabal Luweibdeh, Tel. 637440.

De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic)

Jabal Hussein, Tel. 661757.

Terrasuata Church (Roman Catholic),

Jabal Luweibdeh, mass in Indian language, meet every Saturday at 5:30

p.m. Tel: 622366

Church of the Anamaciation (Greek Orthodox) Abdali, Tel. 623541.

Anglican Church (Church of the Redecancy) Jabal Anuman, Tel. 678906.

Armenism Catholic Church Ashrafich, Tel. 77331. Tel. 771331.

Tel. 771331.

Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafich, Tel. 775261.

St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafich, Tel. 771751.

Ashraman International Church (Interdenominational): meets at Southern
Baptist School in Shmeisani, Tel.
671534. Evangelical Lutheran Church Jabal Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Smir), Tel. 811295.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08) 53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS ROYAL JORDANIAM FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

18:80 18:85 16:30 Kawait (RJ) Athens (RJ) 18:65 Brusseis, Frankfurt (RJ) 18:05 Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna (RJ) Madrid, Rome (RJ) Paris, Geneva (RJ) Baghdad (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

Bucharest (RO) Berlin, Larmaca (IF)
Csiro (MS)
Kuwait (LN)
Baghdad (IA)
Jeddah (SV)
Misscat, Abu Dhabi, Bahrain 11:30 12:30 (GF) Kuwait (KU) . Dobai (EK)

DEPARTURES

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

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11:15	Tunis, Casablanca	(KJ)
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21:15	Cairo	ÌRΝ
22-00	Dubai, Muscat (
23.00	Bangkok ((KJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2) Bucharest (RO)
Frankfurt (LH)
Larnaca, Amsterdam (KLM)
Damascus, Pans (AF)
Damascus, Benfia (IF)
Larnaca, Berfia (IF) 26:20 16:15 12:20 13:40 Tripoli (LN) Baghdad (IA) 13:30 13:30 Baghdad (14:00 Bairrain, Abu Dhabi, Min (GF) Jeddah (SV)

14:00 15:00 Sama'a (LH)

MONEY EXCHANGE Saturday rates Italian lira
Japanese yen (for 100)
Swedish crown
Swiss franc __ 25.7/ 26 222/ 224.4 __ \$2.5/ \$2.9 _ 218.1/ 220.4 PRAYER TIMES

05:45 11:45 15:49 17:45 WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. It will be foggy in the morning, especially in hilly areas. But the situation will change, with slight increase in temperature. Possibly there will be local rain. Winds will be southwesterly

moderate to fresh. In Aqaba, it will be

moderate to irean, in request, is went or partly cloudy, with chances for thun-dershowers. Winds will be south-westerly fresh and seas wavy. Min./max. temp. Aqaba Deserts Jordan Valley 10 / 21

Secretary of State George Shultz ment said in a remark.

factions.

"It suggests Iran is willing to let tious in its reaction to recent its Lebanese ally be tamed by events as it waits to see what Syria ... That would be a positive develops, one official told Reu- outcome," he said.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES Radio Jordan
Ministry of Tourism
Hotel complaints
Price complaints 774111/19

> **NIGHT DUTY** AMMAN: Dr. Yousef Smeirst Dr. Adel Dabdoub

> > Neiroukh Pharmacy ... Saheb pharmacy ... Khalaf pharmacy Firas pharmacy

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TAXES

TRBID:

HOSPITALS Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32 Khalidi Maternity, J. Ann.... 64281/6 Akileh Maternity, J. Ann.... 64244/2 Jabal Austrian Maternity 642362 67362 664171/4 667227/9

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Jordan Television 77311/19

MARKET PRICES

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320 / 270 Banana (Mukammar) 270 / 220 500 / 400 . 100 / 60 ... 80 / 60 . 70 / 50 130 / 100 -- 90 / 60 - 140 / 100 140 / 100 Chestnut ... 500 / 400 190 / 140 130 / 100 Eggplant (small) Eggplant (large) 110 / 80

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Onion (green)
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Pepper (sweet)
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Raddish

NEWS IN BRIEF

Prince Mohammad visits Prime Ministry

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Prince Mohammad, the personal representative of His Majesty King Hussein, Saturday paid a visit to the Prime Ministry where he met with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai.

Rifai receives letter from Tunisian premier

AMMAN (Petra) - Prime Minister Zaid Rifai on Saturday received a letter from Tunisian Prime Minister Rashid Sfar dealing with ties between the two countries. The letter was handed to Mr. Rifai by Tunisian Ambassador to Jordan Said Ibn Mustafa during a meeting at the Prime Ministry.

Aid fund directors discuss financing

AMMAN (Petra) - Directors of the National Aid Fund offices in the Kingdom held a meeting on Saturday to discuss issues related to financing aid schemes, studies on cases and the social status of Jordanians applying for aid or rehabilitation training programmes. The meeting also reviewed legislation related to the formation of private committees for national assistance in accordance with an order issued by the fund's director general Mohammad Al Suggour.

Sudanese trade delegation due today

AMMAN: (Petra) -- An economic and trade delegation, headed by the undersecretary of the Sudanese Ministry of Trade and Supply are due in Amman today on a several-day official visit to Jordan. During their stay, the delegation and officials from the chambers of trade and industry will discuss means to strengthen and promote trade links between both countries.

Road accidents register increase

tcome

1311-25 1311-25 1311-

AMMAN (Petra) — Four people died and 140 others were injured as a result of 312 road accidents which occurred in the country over the past week, according to the Public Security Department (PSD). In a statement the PSD said that most of the accidents occurred in the Amman region. According to the statement, the number of accidents increased by 11.4 per cent over the previous week, the number of injured increased by 2.3 per cent, and the number of deaths decreased by 20 per cent.

Association to attend Arab engineers' talks

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian Engineers Association will take part in the meetings of the higher council of the Federation of Arab Engineers which will open today in Sana'a, North Yemen. Jordanian Engineers Association President Ibrahim Abu Ayyash will head the delegation and he said that the council will discuss a number of issues related to supporting Arab engineers in the occupied Arab territories. The three-day meetings will also discuss a final report on the 17th Arab conference held in Amman last May as well as administrative issues.

Troupe to take part in folk festival as the part

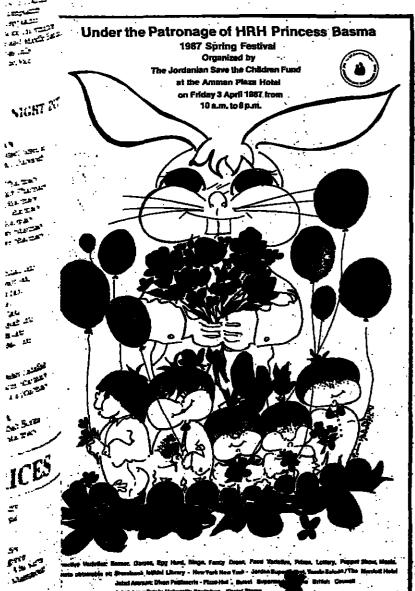
AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan national folklore troupe will take part in the second international festival of folklore art which is scheduled to be held in Norway on June 22. The troupe boycotted the first international festival due to the participation of Israeli troupes. The troupe's management said that it would only participate in this year's festival if no Israeli troupes took part in compliance with Arab boycott of Israel resolutions.

Jordan to attend Arab jurists' meeting in Baghdad next week

nan Jurists Association (JJA) za za vill take part in the Arab Jurists ederation's 12th meeting due to pen in Baghdad next Saturday. A JJA spokesman said that luring the three-day meeting the articipants will discuss issues of concern to the Arab nation and () L. the subject of holding seminars to righlight the importance of the dependent judiciary system, ivil laws and trade union liber-

Also on the agenda are financial and administrative issues and the election of a new secretary general for the federation who will serve for the coming two

The JJA will be represented at the meeting by lawyer Jalal Abbasi, who is the JJA president, and Mr. Jalal Al Abbadi, the



Jordan, Syria discuss operations of joint industry company

Muasher and his Syrian counterpart Ali Al Tarabulsi on Saturday reviewed the activities of the Jordanian Syrian Industry Company (JSIC) which is in charge of operating a number of economic projects in both countries.

Dr. Muasher and Mr. Tarabul-si, who arrived here Saturday on a two-day visit to Jordan, cochaired the meeting of the general assembly of the JSIC, which also evaluated the present activi-ties of the JD 20.5 million white cement company based in the south of Jordan and another scheme in Syria for manufacturng carpets.

According to the JSIC annual report, the white cement company, whose commercial operations started in August 1985 with a daily production output of 320 tonnes, has achieved an "excellent quality production registering two per cent higher than the British standard for cement

The report added that production output during both the company's experimental and commercial operations reached 47,058 tonnes, out of which, 36,344 tonnes were marketed in Jordan and Syria. The company's operations were progressing very well and are covering the needs of both countries' markets, the re-

Regarding the Syrian-based carpet company, the report noted that the concern had been set up in accordance with international specifications and that its operations are carried out "punc-

The report also noted the feasi-

By Lima Nabil

AMMAN — Her Royal Highness Princess Basma, president of the Jordanian Save the Children Fund (SCF), on Saturday visited

Al Nuzha community centre

where she met with wives of Arab

and foreign ambassadors whose

respective countries plan to take part in the SCF's 1987 spring festival, due to be held at the

Amman Plaza Hotel on April 3.

· Proceeds of the event will go to:

support activities turiby the fund-

throughout the Kingdom.

At the meeting, Princess Bas-

ma reviewed the various activities

and programmes to be carried out

To date, the embassies of 23

countries will take part in the

spring display. They are the

Italy, Greece, Pakistan, Kuwait,

Sudan, Saudi Arabia, Turkey,

Yugoslavia, Russia, India,

Korea, Britain, Egypt, Canada,

rance, the Philippines, Austria,

Belgium, Romania, Japan,

Qatar, and the U.S. Other in-

stitutions to take part in the

exhibition are the American

Women of Amman, the Alia

Gateway Hotel, the Jordan Inter-

continental Hotel, the House and

Gardening Club and the Ortho-

At the festival, there will be

ies of China, Indonesia,

during the festival and arrange-

taking part in the event.



being carried out by the joint industrial company (Petra photo)

bility of joint projects to be carried out by the two countries through the JSIC and stressed the necessity of expanding the com-pany's participation base to accommodate other Arab coun-

Saturday's gathering also re-viewed the steps taken to date regarding the establishment of a company to produce pesticides in ascus. According to the report, the Syrian government was in the process of granting the projected company all support and exemptions, afterwhich, the government would decide the shume of its financial participa-

An agreement between the vernments of Jordan and Syria for the pesticide company was endorsed by Parliament two months ago, despite objections raised by deputies Fou'ad Farraj and Abdullah Al Akaileh.

Saturday's meeting also endorsed an agreement underwhich the Syrian-Jordanian Bank is to

Today's second round of discussions is expected to focus on

problems facing it, according to

the Jordan News Agency, Petra. In a statement Mr. Tarabulsi ave to Petra upon his arrival at Jordan's northern check-point of Ramtha, he said his visit is oriented towards discussing the development of the JSIC and solutions for some of the outstanding issues impeding the pro-cess of production by a number of affiliated companies. He did not elaborate any further on the nature of the problems as such, but sources close to the meetings said the issue of hard currency exchanges between Jordan and Syria were a major stumbling block in matters related to bi-

A senior Jordanian official, who earlier described the trade links between both countries as "good," said a lot remained to be completed on organising the exports and imports between the two states and finding means to

lateral trade.

"The main principles and

Thought forum opens seminar on the Islamic awakening

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Saturday patronised the opening of a three-day seminar on "the Islamic awakening and the problems of the Arab World," organised by the Arab Thought Forum (ATF).

In his opening speech, which and unchangeable," he said, was read out on his behalf by Minister of Higher Education Hassan explained that the Islamic awakening was an answer to the political, social and economic problems that the Arab nation is

facing. The Crown Prince defined a discussion of the Islamic awakening to be "a discussion of the conditions of the Muslims during a certain historical period and their intellectual and political school of thoughts and move-ments during the concerned

He said that one of the main objectives of the seminar was to try to explore the historical conditions which led to the modern Islamic awakening, to study its sources of origin, the stages of its development and finally to define the major Islamic movements and tendencies which champion the cause of the Islamic awakening.

The Crown Prince, however, noted that there is a distinction between discussing the Islamic awakening and Islam per se. While Islam, in its main tenets and teachings, is constant the features and the forms of an Islamic awakening change from one historical period to another and are shaped and influenced by many political, social and economic factors, Prince Hassan con-

"while a discussion (of the Islamic awakening) is a discussion of specific historical context or throughout the history of Islam, Prince Hassan said.

The Crown Prince divided the seminar, for the purpose of discussion, into two parts: the first dealing with defining the Islamic awakening and the second outlining the problems of the Arab nation and influences on the shape of current Islamic move-

He said that the Arab nation "is suffering from deep wounds due to political and internal divisions, cultural backwardness. external aggression, ... violation of their sacred shrines and attempts to impose foreign hegemony on the Arab peoples." problems have led to the emergence of contradictory, often conflicting and confusing social, political, intellectual and economic movements and tenencies," he added.

relevant to realise and make a distinction between the authentic movements and those which are alien," he noted.

Prince Hassan called for a combination and bond between the Islamic awakening and the Arab nationalist awakening. He pointed out with regret that many the Islamic awak thinkers have separated and drawn historical context.

movements and viewed them to contradict each other and consequently different, and sometimes even hostile, groups and parties worked against each other. He said that as a result of this separation, many of the emerging groups and parties on each side moved away from our authentic political thought and endorsed imported ideologies, which are alien to our heritage.

But the Crown Prince noted that, fortunately, there have been a number of Arab politicians and theorists who have tried to combine both awakenings in one

During the first session, Dr. Yousef Al Qardawi presented a paper on the "general framework ing" in which he outlined the main features of Islam as understood by the modern Islamic

According to Dr. Qardawi, Islam as understood by the modern Islamic movement focuses on and strike a balance between fundamentalism, traditional ideals and modernisation, to achieve parity between the constant and changeable elements of the movement, to warn against intellectual stagnation and finally to seek to realise a comprehensive understanding of Islam.

During the second session on Saturday afternoon, Dr. Ahmad Sidki Dajani, a well-known Cairo-based Palestinian thinker, presented a research paper which explored foreign attempts to impose hegemony on the Arab and Islamic intellectual movements.

Dr. Dajani stressed the need for finding a clear definition for the Islamic awakening within its

Rifai: Jordan is back on course towards development and progress

(Continued from page 1) the Greater Amman region came into being at the beginning of this year and work will be going on for the coming three-year provisional period to organise the area and I believe there will be nine municipalities within the Greater Amman region. But work should be completed on re-marking the boundaries of each municipality within the new

Q: With reference to parliamentary elections again, you said that new deputies have been Bank but these were chosen by the House members themselves. Don't you believe that the wider base for election is on the West Bank where the people there should elect their representative? A: Holding elections under Israeli occupation is out of question. But the constitution has provided for some sort of arrangement to make up for that and an amendment to the constitution stipulates that this can be done within the House as it has been done. When the election is held in the East Bank, the deputies representing the East Bank will, according to the amendment in the constitution, elect half of the representatives of the West Bank and the new elected group of West Bank deputies will in turn elect the last quarter. Q: The government has been or \$300 million in hard currency

nomists believe these are above the maximum level, and at the same time the government has been increasing travel taxes and cancelling allowances for travel and overtime work. Don't you think this is making it difficult for people in general and the employees in particular? A: Taxes and fees imposed on the

public are not as great as some imagine, and far less than those imposed by other countries. Travel fees and the allowances TOT OVE imposed on domestic servants... all these should be regarded as part of the government's overall plans for improving the national economy. These measures should not be considered piecemeal because the government introduces such measures with the view of arriving at sound and fruitful re-Let me explain with some de-

tail. You will be surprised to know that there were 963,000 departures by Jordanians in 1986. This of course does not mean that 963,000 people left the country for visits abroad but many had made several trips. You could imagine how much these people spend abroad. Suppose each traveller spends JD 100 in each trip and this is a minimum, it would mean that JD 100 million

increasing the volume of taxes are spent abroad every year. The and fees. According to what ecogovernment has raised the fees for travellers by air from JD 10 to JD 15 because this is expected to stem travel and save hard currency for the country and at the same time provide some sort of income for the government to help it carry out public services.

In addition, hard currency is hard to come by these days. Of money and whatever income it gets to spend it on opening roads, building health centres, hospitals, the public. Therefore, those who can travel and spend extravagantly abroad can of course pay an additional JD 5 as a departure fee for the sake of serving the country and the general public.

The same measure applies to those employing domestic servants. I have lately acquainted myself with statistics and was surprised to see that we have at least 8,084 Filipino and Sri Lankan servants who annually transfer JD 10 million abroad. If we take into account the cost of keeping these servants in Jordan in terms of food, medication, and clothing etc... we can also add another JD 10 million. This is quite unreasonable at all and quite unjustifiable.

Of course there will always be isolated cases which can be treated separately in terms of fee

(Continued on page 4)

The anatomic solution.

RADO DiaStar «Anatom»



Princess Basma reviews preparations for Save the Children spring festival

shows, and a special section where wives of the 23 ambassadors will sell gifts. The Jordanian Armed Forces Band will take part in the function and prizes and gifts will be distributed to

The Royal Jordanian airline folklore troupe, the Haya Arts Centre, the band Mirage, the puppet theatre and the Al Ahliyyah and the Nazareth schools wil also take part in the

During the festival, Princess Basma said that one of the most important events will be a charity bazaar to display products of different centres run by the SCF in Jordan as well as food supplies, traditional handicrafts and

wings for selling gifts, food sup-plies, stationery, fancy dresses, national costumes. children's toys, crafts and artifi-cial flowers. In addition, there Princess Basma also reviewed tailoring and embroidery courses, typing and secretarial schemes, as well as work related to puppetry, straw weaving, home economics family education, nursing and first aid. Princess Basma voiced appreciation to the audience for their participation in the coming Later, she accompanied the

programes for women, including

wives of the ambassadors on a tour of the various parts of the Nuzha community centre and where they were briefed on its services and activities. The SCF was founded in Jor-

dan in 1974 and it carries out integrated health and social services and projects for mothers and children in various regions of the Kingdom. The SCF's first project was set up in Ma'an and caters for citizens in the town and the fund's activities and training in neighbouring villages.

Refreshing clarity

THE prime minister, Mr. Zaid Rifai, in his wide-ranging interview with newspaper editors on Saturday, clearly set out in unambiguous terms the country's economic status and national priorities. Coming at a time when rumours and speculation are rife about the country's economy, the prime minister's clear and frank answers helped clear the mind of the citizens and set the record straight. On every issue that was raised — government spending, travel tax, the five-year plan, and increased fees on work permits for domestic servants the prime minister's answers were clear, and pointed to one thing; our economy is not as bad as some portray it to be. He stressed that the recent government measures are aimed at paving the way for solving problems wherever they arise.

The prime minister also warned that it was time for Jordanians to accept the reality that we are not living in the past years of the oil boom in the Gulf and should work towards realigning our priorities and streamlining our economy. Towards this end, said Mr. Rifai, job-oriented education is a must. While agreeing that there are imbalances in the educational structure of the country, the prime minister also explained the work of the concerned councils' towards bringing about a transformation in the system. He we ned, however, that no immediate results could be expected because the strategy adopted in this regard was long-term.

All in all, it was refreshing to hear the prime minister explaining the situation in straight-forward terms, unclouded by obscure terminology. The situation is very real and it is high time we Jordanians realised the implications of the issues at hand and how we could help our country continue its march towards progress and development.

The revelations by Mr. Rifai of the soundness of our economy, our currency, and our balance of payments situation were reassuring and should give us confidence that concerted efforts by all of us should see us through to the aspired goals of

Clearly, part of the responsibility lies with us in continuing the remarkable progress our country has made in the past years. We hope that everyone of us understands this and contributes towards further building our country and putting it back on track by cooperating in full with the government.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Hopes for summit

SAUDI Arabia and Algeria have both announced their agreement on the need for holding an Arab summit meeting, because of the significant issues that it would have to discuss. The last summit was held in 1982 and another was scheduled for 1984 but did not take place due to the on-going differences among Arab states which in turn had obstructed all initiatives to achieve solidarity and unity of ranks within the Arab World. A number of voices were raised over the past few years calling for the convening of the long delayed summit, regardless of who would attend, but this call was met with no response. But it seems that now the Arab leaders have found common ground warranting a meeting at the highest level, and it seems that Saudi Arabia has played a leading role in this endeavour. Saudi Arabia has been in touch with the leaders of various Arab countries in the past weeks following the Islamic summit which was held in Kuwait where Arab leaders had had the chance to meet and discuss Arab issues. Perhaps the Arab leaders now realise the need for the summit meeting in order to coordinate their countries' stand vis-a-vis the common dangers and threats from the enemies of the Arab Nation. Jordan which has worked relentlessly for convening the summit is satisfied with the new development and sees in it a new chance for the Arabs to mobilise their efforts and confront all challenges and threats to their nation.

Al Dustour: A fresh call for summit

IT was natural for Saudi Arabia and Algeria to issue a call for an Arab summit conference which would see an end to all differences among Arab countries. A communique issued by the leaders of the two countries following King Fahd's visit to Algiers should be regarded as significant, specially as it reflects the views of two important leaders who carry real weight in Arab politics and who can actually play a key role in ending differences among Arab leaders. This call for an Arab summit comes just in time, as the Arab World continues to confront serious challenges and threats from the common enemies and in time to help the Arabs work out a new strategy that can effectively serve the interests of the Arab Nation. But first of all the Arab leaders are required to end their differences, and the summit provides the suitable forum where they can do so. There is no doubt that Jordan welcomes this development because it has sought to covene the summit by all means in order to re-establish solidarity among the Arabs. Jordan, more than others, believes in unified ranks and joint action that can help the Arabs secure their rights, and enlist worldwide support for their causes. We view the Algerian-Saudi Arabian endeavour as an important step to end the Arab disputes and a call on all Arab leaders to work seriously and relentlessly towards achieving Arab people's aspirations.

Sawt Al Shaab: A summit for the taking

THE Algerian-Saudi Arabian call for holding an Arab summit has added significance to such a summit and supported current efforts towards achieving it. Arab leaders now seem to be more and more couvinced of the need to coordinate their attitudes and their policies with regard to important issues and problems that have been plagning their nation. The summit, which the majority of Arab states want to convene, is not an objective by itself but a means for the Arab leaders to reach consensus on their future joint action. For this reason, the first step towards the summit should be an end of differences among Arab states because this is essential for a successful meeting and an effective result. We feel that work should be directed and efforts mobilised towards paving the road for the summit before holding it, and we need to have understanding among Arab heads of state before they actually meet in Riyadh to discuss a host of issues of concern to their peoples and their nation. Once this is achieved the Arab leaders can discuss the Gulf war, the Lebanece question and the Arab-Israeli conflict which are the main issues that have been troubling the Arab Nation.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

Stop bleeding shareholding companies

IT has been widely held by policy makers that shareholding companies are "small governments" and thus are capable of meeting all their financial commitments at all times in addition to having plenty of funds to declare generous dividends.

Perhaps that is why Jordanian shareholding companies are required to pay up to 50 per cent of their profits as income tax, a rate well above the corresponding tax rates currently paid by corporations in the industrialised countries like the United States or Britain.

Those countries have realised the importance of tax reduction for encouraging new investments, for expanding old ones and for creating new job opportunities. The marginal tax rates in those countries do not exceed 38 per cent, while the average tax rate is even lower due to various incentives and tax credits.

Like cigarettes and alcohols, whenever more funds are needed for, the shareholding companies are the first source to be tapped. Companies would not be allowed to pay any dividends until after they pay 40 to 50 per cent of their profits as income tax, 10 per cent as compulsory reserves, 1 per cent for the universities, 2 per cent for research and development. Before making any profit they have to transfer 10 per cent of the salaries and wages to the Social Security Corporation, and very soon they will have to pay another 10 per cent of the salaries and wages to finance the medical insurance scheme, let alone the remunerations of the board members and their inflated

Currently, shareholding companies are passing through very tough circumstances. They are struggling for survival. Total losses sustained by shareholding companies in 1985, for instance, exceeded total profits. Therefore companies are no more an easy source to extract funds from. Companies themselves are starving for cash to keep their heads above the water.

Watching companies being sucked-off, one may conclude that this form of business is not wanted and should therefore be discouraged. The excessive burdens imposed on those companies seem only to serve to compel investors to abandon shareholding companies and concentrate instead on individual small businesses. So far such a policy has succeeded in halting the establishment of new shareholding companies.

However, the declared official policy runs counter to all the above. Officials encourage the establishment of new shareholding companies, which mean new investments, enlargement of productive capacity and the creation of new jobs for the tens of thousands of youths who are seeking employment in vain.

So far, shareholding companies are treated without mercy. They are looked upon as undepletable gold mines. It is high time to re-examine this serious matter and remove the disincentives which discourage the formation and success of companies.

The first step we recommend in this direction is to slash corporate marginal tax down to a maximum of 25 per cent. When a company is losing money, or making low profits, it should be exempted from financial burdens which are not directly related to its production effort, such as the 1 per cent university fees, the 2 per cent research and development suggested in the recommended draft of the companies law, medical insurance to staff, and the like, which should be left to the discretion of the management in the light of its financial

Even if shareholding companies could act as a milking cow or a golden eggs laying goose, it is not in the best interest of the economy to kill them and extract all the milk or all the golden eggs once and

In last week column a mistake was made in estimating the annual proceeds of the Social Security Corporation at JD 120 million and proceeds of municipalities in domestic revenues at JD 100 million. The two figures should in fact read JD 35 million and JD 30 million respectively. This makes the overall tax burden in Jordan around 33 per cent of national income which is still very excessive.

Rifai: Jordan is back on course towards development and progress

(Continued from page 3)

payment. Like the other day, I heard on the call-in radio programme a lady complaining that she was the sole bread winner of the family and keeps a servant who looks after her paralysed father. In this case the government is ready not only to charge the previous fee but to cancel the fee altogether because we are dealing with a humanitarian case

But on the other hand, some women complain by saying that they work in order to supplement the meagre income of the family. but I say that some of these women pay half or even three quarters of their salaries for keeping the servant who in turn transfer the money abroad. Does the remainder of the salary justify all this spending? There is a third category the wealthy people of Jordan whose women do not work outside home but are also complaining. What they have to pay is merely JD 7 a month extra the cost of one hairdressing or a bouquet of flowers etc...

As to the issue of allowances for extra work and overtime, I am sorry that many did not understand the government's decision about it. It was meant to put an end to a procedure whereby some employees who were paid to do extra work in addition to what they normally do between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m. did not actually do what they are required to do. They used to consider the extra pay as an extra income to improve their living condition out doing work in return. What the government meant by the new measure was to control the overtime work and so control the extra and unwarranted spending. Q: What you said about the increased fees for domestic servants is a good measure, but people are questioning the wisdom of imposing fees on tourists upon their departure from the country. This measure could backfire on the country which is trying to attract tourists. How do you view the situation?

A: The government has been charging departure fees for visitors who could be businessmen or coming to see friends but it will not charge any fees on groups of tourists. A group means 15 persons coming to spend some time in Jordan and these are exempted. In addition, the government is re-considering previous decisions concerning the following categories and will issue new regulations in the coming future:

Jordanians leaving to work abroad, specially Arab Gulf region, who eventually will send back earnings to be invested in Jordan and those who come to Jordan from the Gulf to visit their families. All these will be treated differently from those travelling to Europe for pleasure.

Q: Does the government plan to impose fees on solar heaters? A: The government has never thought of such a thing. Indeed we thought of taking an extra measure to encourage people to use solar heaters because it will save energy.

Q: Some people who are used to keeping a domestic servant for necessary work would now opt to employ Arab servants but these will also transfer hard currency to their countries. What is your view about that?

A: The law requires the payment of JD 150 for non-Arab domestic servants but not for Arab servants, and if the situation requires that in the future the laws and regulations will be amended accordingly. But, for the time being, the existing law and regulations will be put into force. The government heard some people complaining when the fees were raised for non-Arab servants, and had this been applied to Arab servants as well the complaints would have been greater, and greater still if the domestic servants were banned

Q: According to rules Jordanian universities should accept students in the light of their tawjihi average but the universities often do not follow the set rules. Do you not think this is violating the rules of Justice?

A: There are no exceptions but what the universities do is to assign a certain percentage of the seats for specific sectors like the children of Armed Forces personnel, those serving in the Ministry of Education, and those working at the universities, students from the occupied West Bank, students coming from Islamic countries and students from different provinces of the Kingdom, like the Badia and rural regions etc. This is done to give the chance to all categories and try to make it possible for less fortunate people to acquire higher education on the same level of others. In this case, we consider the measure

Q: Our students abroad spend a lot of money, but if they are allowed to obtain education here they would save a lot of hard

to absorb more students?

A: We started off with one university. Then we opened Yar-University and the University of the work of one. Science and Technology. We also have 52 community colleges and allowed the private sector to establish a private university. But no-one has applied to open (an advanced) university todate though the chance exists for such a project. The question is not to have more universities but rather whether we want all students to get university education. I agree that a lot is being spent abroad for teaching students at foreign universities and the country spends millions more annually on teaching students here. Our Jordanian society has a complex called university degree and many believe that their children should obtain such degrees. We are trying to reexamine this situation and the educational policy at large. We will give more emphasis on vocational and technical education.

Q: What has the ministerial committee on handling the unemployed people done, and what will the government do to link education with the needs of the community? A: We only have unemployment

in certain specialisations and not

a general unemployment probav lem. We have 40,000 unemployed (22,000 male and 18,000 female) employ 120,000 non-Jordanians in different trades. Most of the unemployed are college graduates. We are now trying with all our might and without any exception to give all vacant jobs to Jordanians and we do not allow non-Jordanians to have priority over Jordanian citizens. However, we have certain types of occupations which are shunned by Jordanians though they are unemployed. This forces us to employ non-Jordanians. The non-Jordanian workers are here because no Jordanians want their place and for this reason Jordanians seeking employment re-main idle. Hence we see that a university degree is no more lucrative and cannot serve as a means for income.

The committee which is handling the issue of unemployed people has held several meetings and issued several recommendations which are now under consideration before putting these recom- part of the government in the

currency for the country. Don't mendations into force. There are you think of expanding the uni- short-, medium- and long-term versity education base in Jordan recommendations and the government plans to offer training to graduates and then try to reorganise work with the intention mouk University and then Mu'ta of employing two persons to do

> Q: There hae been some complaints about awarding projects to foreign firms. What is your

view about this? A: We are in constant touch with the contractors union and we have been making it clear that we give priority in projects to Jordanian contractors. In some cases when we get financing from Arab and international funds, these sources insist that contacts be floated internationally and they do not want us to restrict projects to Jordanians alone. But we insist that a Jordanian firm should enter as a partner and that only Jordanian workers should be employed. Otherwise priority is always given to Jordanians.

Sometimes the government is forced to offer a tender to a foreign firm for reasons related to Jordan's exports to that country of that particular firm. For example, Jordan's phosphate exports to India, the largest importer of Jordanian phosphates, is esti-mated at \$150 million annually and we do not import anything from India in exchange. We only import \$2 million worth of goods annually and the Indian government complains about this unfavourable balance of trade between the two countries.

offers from Morocco, Canada and the USA of phosphates at lower prices than ours and in exchange for importing Indian goods for the same amount. But India says that due to the unique relationship between Jordan and India and because Jordan is nearer to India it would like to see things going on smoothly and the relationship continuing but Jordan has to import more Indian goods. For this reason, we gave priority to an Indian firm to carry out two projects which will cost us only \$30 million when we are exporting \$150 million worth of phosphates to India. But there is no rivalry between local and foreign firms in any way. Q: We notice that there has been

a reduction of spending the implementation of the 1986-1990 five-year plan. What is the reason for that? Are all the funds for the plan available? A: There has been no drop on the

which failed to invest sufficient for reasons connected with economic situations that have been prevailing in our region. As to the implementation of the whole plan, a continuous study is being try to obtain loans to carry out projects, in addition to those projects directly financed by the

Jordanian treasury. Q: What was the result of your efforts in urging Kuwaiti investors to invest in Jordan and what was the response so far? Also, it is said that local banks have JD 2,000 million in deposit. What is the government's plan to encourage people to invest these funds in projects in order to stimulate the economy?

A: We have taken a number of measures to encourage foreign and Arab people to invest in Jordan and we have promised Arab investors that they would have the same treatment as Jordanians in this respect. We have also allowed investors total freedom to move their profits and their capital in and out of the country. I found a real desire from the Kuwaitis to invest in Jordan. They asked about the areas for investment and we provided them with the information about the projects. We agreed to organise a meeting in Kuwait next month to explain all about these projects which need capital and investment.

In Jordan, banks have deposits of nearly JD 2,000 million, part of which is being invested in buying government bonds for financing economic projects. We are trying to encourage people to invest in projects by creating profitable climates for their investments and giving people investment opportunities and removing all obstacles in the way of investments. Q: Why did not the government reduce prices of oil products and cement when their prices have dropped world-wide?

A: When oil prices were high internationally the government used to subsidise oil products. The government paid JD 254 million in oil subsidy between 1976 and 1985 for the sake of keeping the price down for the public. The price of oil is fluctuating all the time; it might go up to \$25 a barrel and fall to \$15 the next day.

The government has thus resorted to other forms to help the

amounts of funds for the first year public. It has reduced the price of of the plan. There was some fuel oil used in factories and the hesitation from the private sector products are now costing less. It reduced the price of electricity funds in the first year of the plan and water to help the largest sector of the population. Q: Some people are apprehensive

of the increasing amount of foreign debt. Can you assure us about

made with the financiers, and we A: Debts can be measured by the ability of each country can repay the loans and the interest on these loans and the service on those loans. The red line is reached if the government has to pay 20 per cent or more (of the exports) as interest and service annually on the total loans. In Jordan, we have reached 14.9 per

cent only We have committed ourselves to paying our debts in instalments hoping to continue to get Arab financial aid as decided on at the Baghdad summit. But we did not receive all the commitments and so the government found itself forced to pay for the loans it a obtained in the early 1980s. Now we are trying to keep the ceiling of our loans as low as possible and the amounts of loans are gradually dropping.

At present Jordan owes ID 902 million, some of which are easy loans, some are commercial loans and the rest are guaranteed by the government. We have to be careful about two things: first that the treasury should be in sound shape so that it can shoulder its duty towards dealing with other countries and the public in Jordan as well so that it can preserve its credibility.

The second point is to preserve an acceptable amount of foreign currency as a reserve for the Kingdom. This gives us stability and guarantees to meet our external commitments.

All the government's economic and financial measures should be viewed in this perspective. All measures that serve the country's interests are taken regardless of the reaction from the public. Q: What is the Kingdom's present foreign currency reserves? and to what extent does this affect the value of the dinar?

A: I have heard rumours that the dinar is stronger than it is really worth and I do not know the motives or the sources of these rumours because they do not reflect the reality. Jordan had JD 781 million in gold reserve but this increased to JD 822 million in 1986. We achieved a saving in the balance of payment estimated at JD 35 million in 1986.

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Can an accountant who's never made a programme run the BBC?

By Edith M. Lederer The Associated Press

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LONDON - Plagued by controversy, accused of anti-government bias and facing an explosion of competition, the British Broadcasting Corp. has chosen a virtual unknown to be its director

When Michael Checkland beat five other candidates for the top broadcasting job in Britain, there was a scramble for information about him, and every newspaper printed the same three-year-old photograph — the only one in their files

Checkland has never made a radio or television programme, instead, he rose through BBC ranks via the behind-the-scenes finance and management route. Even after being named deputy director to Alasdair Milne in 1985, he was little known outside the corporation.

Milne resigned in January, saying his decision was for personal reasons. But a British newspaper reported he resigned under pressure from the board of governors because of controversies that included two libel suits, police seizure of a segment on

By Ronald Clarke

Reuter

LOS ANGELES — Rambo may

be getting soft, Sylvester Stallone

is changing the script to make the

character who launched a one-

man invasion of Vietnam more

"Sly is afraid the public will not

realistic and less of a cartoon.

buy the Rambo they know one

more time," an aide to Stallone

said. "He is going to bring Rambo more into the real world, give

him more depth, maybe even

make him start thinking about world issues instead of blasting

One important reason for the

change is the film "Platoon," a

stark, realistic infantryman's view

of the Vietnam war which re-

ceived eight Oscar nominations

and is topping the U.S. box office

takings.
Stallone believes this is a sign

that audiences, particularly

American andiences, want more

the Top," the saga of a muscle-

bound truck driver who goes in

for arm wrestling, is in only fourth place in the U.S. box

office ratings, a relative failure

for the world's top box office

In addition to "Platoon," the

Andrew McCarthy and Kim Cat-

trall, and "Outrageous Forture"

"Over

realism in their films.

Stallone's latest film,

everything that moves."

Britain's first spy satellite and charges of anti-government bias in BBC reports on the U.S. attacks on Libya.

Checkland, named acting general director, was so impressive during his four-week stint, the board of governors said, that he won the job over higher-profile rivals with impressive broadcasting credentials.

He takes charge of a publicly funded organisation of 25,400 employees with a budget of 933 million pounds (\$1.46 billion).

The BBC is one of Britain's major institutions, blanketing the land with commercial-free radio and television and beaming widely respected radio programmes abroad. But it is at a contentious period in its 65-year history.

Media observers reacted with caution and some dismay to Checkland's appointment of Feb. 26. The Times of London urged boldness, saying he must not revert to "his accountant's caution." Michael Leapman wrote in the London Daily News that choosing an accountant over senior broadcasters was "a safetyfirst choice that is sure to be reflected on our screens."

starring Bette Midler are also

than a thousand theatres, com-pared with 1.800 showing Stal-

"Mannequin" is showing in less

The story of a man who falls in

love with a bewitched shop dum-

my, "Mannequin" cost only six

million dollars to make, whereas "Over the Top" cost \$25 million.

Artists studio executive Lee Rich

to have grossed more than one

billion dollars at the box office,

has usually had an opening week-

end box office of more than \$15

But "Over the Top" took \$5.1

million on its opening holiday

Ten years after Stallone's first movie, "Rocky," won an Oscar for best picture, film experts are

wondering whether Stallone is

going to have to change his image

to end a style of acting described as shoot now, mumble later.

less than two a minute.

He fought for the American

way of life as boxer Rocky Bal-

boa in the "Rocky" series, res-

cued American prisoners from Vietnam in the "Rambo" series

and, as cop Marion "Cobra"

Cobretti, wiped out crazed killers

whom the rest of the police force

wanted to leave alone in

In "Rambo: First Blood Part

Stallone had only 163 lines,

Stallone, estimated by United

office race.

weekend.

"Cobra."

In his first news conference, the 51-year-old Checkland insisted that he is more than just an accountant, saying that for the not oppose it," he said. He gave more clues cerned with making programmes happen, getting the resources for

Right now, the BBC has only one major television rival and no national radio competition. But with a fledgling cable TV service already operating, satellite broadcasting on the borizon and the government recommending the creation of three national independent radio networks, he will face tough decisions about how — or whether — the BBC. can meet the competition.

"The central task of the new director general is to take (the BBC) from a cozy and highly successful monopoly system, in which half the national audience has been handed to it on a plate, into a world of unregulated free market forces," said Nigel Ryan, another candidate for director

Checkland said he was ready

"Rambo,"

knives when he did not have a

gun handy. The film received a

million dollars worth of free pub-

licity when President Reagan, in

a microphone test heard by re-

porters when he was preparing

for a speech on the release of 39

American hijack victims in Beirut, declared: "Boy, after

seeing 'Rambo' last night, I know

In "Cobra," Stallone poured

petrol over a victim after telling

him: "You have the right to

It has been a heady journey for

the man born in the tough hell's

kitchen area of New York, who

cleaned out lion's cages and

worked as a cinema usher for six

years while looking for acting

To the recorded sound of a

Stallone

fanfare,

announced at a news conference

last May that he had signed a

multi-million dollar agreement

with United Artists to make 10

films in the next six years and to

"They will all be in a very energetic role," Stallone said

But some film analysts say the

time may be coming when Stal-

lone will be able to make the film

that has been a lifelong ambition:

The story of the brooding poet

and author Edgar Allan Poe.

star in at least five:

what to do next time."

remain silent."

trumpet

ahead of Stallone in the box favoured poison arrows or bowie

"We have to keep the quality democr of programmes up in a period of poorer.

be in everything. We want to form a partnership with change,

He gave more clues to his thinking in a speech to a conference on broadcasting eight days before his selection.

"Education, information and entertainment will drive the BBC on into the 21st century," he said. "We must be steady, confident and mean in using the massive resources still at our disposal, and bold and brave in choosing our priorities."

The new director general nicknamed "Checkbook Checkland" - said Britain should be proud of the BBC. "Criticise it by all means and regularly — we do so ourselves daily," he said.

But Checkland, apparently referring to the controversies that reportedly led to his predecessor's resignation, warned that "deliberate and sustained attacks day by day" would ultimately weaken the BBC. If weakened, he said, the innovation, risk-taking and investigative journalism would diminish and the country's democratic process would be



Michael Checkland: The DG with the vision of a leaner and fitter BBC

A softer Rambo may even start thinking

By Carl Manning The Associated Press

BELIZE CITY, Belize - The beaded jade necklace glistens in the sunlight as a middle-aged Belizean holds it up for inspection by a visitor who casually expressed an interest in ancient Maya artifacts.

Now, if I was in the business of selling, I might be able to get \$2,500 for it," the man says. Maybe for you, it would be no more than \$1,500.

In the United States, he says, it might sell for up to \$10,000 at a major auction house.

The man never says the piece is for sale, nor whether it is a genuine Maya creation. He will say, however, it was found in a

That, plus its appearance, its estimated value and the man's reluctance to have his name revealed all suggest it is real, available and looted.

For selling any looted Maya artifact, the man could be fined \$5,000 and imprisoned up to five years by the government of this small Central American nation, where every artifact is crucial to recreating the history and decline of the mysterious civilisation.

"The problem of looting has increased tenfold in the past five how much has been taken out of the country," archaeology com-I missioner Harriot Topsey said in

Theft critical problem for archaeologists an interview at Belmopan, the a population 162,000, simply does not have enough police to curb capital built in the middle of the jungle about 50 miles west of

Belize City. "Sometimes it is sold on the open market, which adds an air of legality to a very illegal busihe said.

More than 600 Maya sites have been found in Belize, Topsey said. He believes there could be 600 more awaiting discovery under the green jungle canopy that covers much of the country, which is nestled into the Caribbean coastline between Mexico and Guatemala.

Many of the stolen artifacts are from the Mayas' classic period, A.D. 300-900, but the oldest Maya sites in Belize date back to

2500 B.C. For maximum research value, the sites must be found intact, Topsey said. A bowl made in the pre-classic area, if found in a classic-period village, for example, might change scientists' ideas about when the village was set-

"An object taken from its original location is out of context, and then you lose whatever information that might have been gotten," Topsey said. Furthermore, "many looters destroy

what is at the site to get at the items that can be sold." Most of the stolen objects go to The Mayas considered the caves collectors in the United States,

the thefts, he said. "If you had the whole police

force, you still couldn't stop it because you need other countries like the United States working to stop it," Topsey said. "Only by international cooperation can you

Small artifacts such as pots and figures that fit into suitcases and pockets are hardest to protect, although some looters resort to bizarre methods of trying to spirit the items out of the country.

One would-be smuggler cut up a stela - a stone column covered with Maya glyphs - and tried to carry it out of the country in 11 suitcases, said Winnel Branche, another government archaeologist.

"It was all the weight that gave it away. It was a pretty ridiculous thing to try to do," Ms. Branche

Sometimes looters become victims. In early February two Guatemalan men died in a remote area of northern Belize when a section of Maya mound they were looting collapsed, a coroner's report said.

Objects from the classic period are often found in the caves that dot Belize, Ms. Branche said. gateways to the underworld, and Topsey said. Belize, a nation 174 placed bowls of food in them as miles long and 68 miles wide with offering to the gods, she said.

Woman sets off in solo bid to reach North Pole

By Betzi Woodman

WARD HUNT ISLAND, Canada — A diminutive 40-year-old American, accompanied only by eight sledge dogs, has set out become the first woman to reach the North Pole by land.

Pam Flowers, a former medical worker who lives in Wasilla, Alaska, set out last weekend from this remote Canadian outpost on a journey that will last at needs. least two months.

Flowers admits to being obsessed with her objective.

During the long trek her only contact with humans will be a daily radio conversation, if conditions permit, with base camp manager Kate Persons at Resolute, a weather station and farnorth airport in Canada.

Flowers is also carrying a radio beacon which will keep her in regular contact with two polar orbiting satellites. This contact will help keep her on course, along with her traditional magnetic compass and sexton readings.

"I will know when I am there (the pole) because the beacon can pinpoint me within a few feet of my position on the ice. There's no way I can cheat," she said prior to her departure.

Flowers must complete her journey by mid-May at the latest because the 24-hour Arctic sun, which comes with the vernal equinox in mid-March, will make the ice too broken and mushy to

traverse beyond that date. The straight-line distance to the pole from her starting point is 765 kilometres, but Flowers expects she will travel at least 1,600 kilometres as she detours around open water and obstacles such as ice pressure ridges as high as 15

The polar ice can open up at any time, creating anything from a tiny crack to a fissure a 1.6 kilometre or more wide. If they are narrow enough, she can use her sledge as a bridge. If they are wider, she can make a pontoon bridge of ice slabs.

"Sometimes I will just wait," she said.

Flowers, who is 152 cm tall and weighs 43 kilogrammes, is using a light, flexible sledge based on an old Eskimo design.

The sledge is 4.25 metres long,

86 cm wide and has especially angled three-metre runners. It will not easily flip, which is important since she is travelling

When loaded with gear and food, the sledge weighs about 2770 kilogrammes, which is more than Flowers can move over high ridges. The best way, she says, is to go around. Failing that, she will chop a passage through them or build platforms and ramps with slabs of ice.

Ice conditions alone will not

determine how far she goes in a day. The intense cold is another factor. Temperatures can get as low as minus 65 degrees fahrenheit (minus 54 C) and. when accompanied by a 35 or 40 mile per hour wind, it becomes across the Artic ice aiming to the equivalent of minus 150 degrees (minus 100 C).

The cold will affect all Flowers' activities, slowing the process of feeding and watering the dogs which must be done four times a day - and tending her own

Flowers will eat high-calorie foods - a half a pound of bacon a day with all fat absorbed by potatoes, sausage and logan bread, which is made with eggs, nuts, and fruits, each slice providing

450 calories. Fresh-baked logan bread and other food supplies will be delivered by air at predetermined food drops scheduled for every 14

to 17 days as weather permits. Dehydration is a constant worry for both Flowers and her dogs. The snow contains little moisture, and gathering and melting it takes

The dogs, with a higher metabolism than humans, can gulp snow without harm to assuage their thirst. Flowers carries tea or liquid jello for herself in a special

bag to keep it from freezing.
The dogs, Siberian Huskies, are inured to sleeping in the open on burlap bags. The sledge carries with its gear booties made of bunting with velcro fasteners to put on the dogs' feet when the ice

sharp. With approval from the widow of Naomi Uemura, who made the first and so far only solo surface trek to the North Pole, Flowers is dedicating her trip as a memorial to the Japanese adventurer, who died in 1984 climbing alone on 6,166-metre Mt. McKinley in

It was an article by Uemura, also a person of small stature, which fired Flowers' desire to leave her life of "collecting fine furniture and become an apprentice to the Arctic."

She quit her job as a respiratory therapist, sold her belongings, and began training for the odyssey. She headed north and in the past eight years has racked up more than 22,500 kilometres of winter sledge-dog trips, most of them alone. These include last year finishing the Iditarod, the gruelling 1,770 kilometres sledgedog race across Alaska from Anchorage to Nome.

She says the first thing she plans to do when she gets home will be to "shower, eat a box of bon-bons and buff my nails."

Then she'll get busy writing up the experiments and scientific readings taken on the trip and begin a book about the adventure. After that, she plans to start raising money for her next solo expedition — to the South Pole.

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Watford shatters Arsenal's dream of 3 English titles

LONDON (AP) — Arsenal's dream of winning all three English soccer titles was shattered Saturday when it was beaten 3-1 at home by Watford in the quarterfinal of the F.A. (Football Association) Cun.

Everton, moved further away from their north London rival in the league by winning their games. Champion and standings leader Liverpool won 3-1 at Oxford United while second-placed Everton beat Southampton 3-0 at

The results meant Liverpool maintained its six-point lead over Everton and moved ten points. clear of third placed Arsenal. which has two games in hand.

In another cup game, Conven-try City gained the semifinal for the first time in its history by winning 3-1 at Sheffield Wednesday

Arsenal's sixth round game against Watford ended in controversy and unruly scenes on and

The home side, which will meet Liverpool in the final of the Littlewoods Cup at Wembley next month, took the lead through Ian

But the visitor roared back with goals by England interna-tionals Luther Blissett and John Barnes, before Blissett scored a controversial third in the last mi-

The linesman's flag went up Leeds United.

Mean while, the two with the ball in the Watford area Merseyside clubs, Liverpool and and play continued with Arsenal fans shouting for a penalty. It could have given their side an equaliser but, instead, Blissett

took the ball to the other end and

scored Watford's third. The Arsenal players drew the referee's attention to the linesman, but after the two officials consulted, referee Brian Stevens awarded the goal.

Amid angry scenes after the final whistle, one linesman was seen to be ducking to avoid missiles thrown from the stands and Arsenal's England international midfielder, Steve Williams, was involved in a heated exchange with Watford's manager, Graham

At Sheffield, Coventry took the lead through Cyrille Regis only for Gary Megson to level soon after half time. But the visitor clinched a semifinal place with two strikes by Keith

Two more quarterfinals ties take place on Sunday. Wimblehosts Tottenham Hotspur while Third Division Wigan Athletic receives Second Division

Ian Rush scored his 32nd goal of the season and John Wark added two as Liverpool brushed

Oxford aside. Wigan claims

Gorbachev as fan WIGAN, England (AP) — English Third Division club Watford said Saturday it was counting on the support of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev when it takes

on Leeds United in an F.A.

(Football Association)Cup quar-

terfinal on Sunday. Wigan's general manager, John Fillingham, said he expected Gorbachev to sit by his radio wearing his Wigan hat and scarf cheering on the little north English club in its bid to reach a Wembley final for the first time in

Fillingham said the club understood the Soviet leader took a keen interest in its fortunes.
"News of Mr. Gorbachev's

passion for our club was leaked in the Bangkok Post in January, so we sent him a complete set of our supporters' kit. Everybody knows the reason the Soviets stopped amming the (British Broadcasting Corporation's) world service was so Mr. Gorbachev could follow the football league results, and in particular Wigan's performance," Fillingham said.

Davis Cup roundup Australia splits singles with Yugoslavia

Davis Cup champion Australia, playing on a grass court in Adelaide, split its first-round World Group singles against Yugoslavia. Pat Cash of Australia downed Bruno Oresar 9-7, 6-4, 7-5 and Yugoslavia's Slobodan Zivojinovich stopped Wally Masur 6-8, 8-6, 9-7, 12-10.

Sweden, which has reached the final the last four years, winning in 1984 and 1985, also split its two singles with Italy. Sweden's Mats Wilander swept Simone Colombo 6-2, 6-3, 6-0 after Italy had won the first singles Friday when Paolo Cane surprised Mikael Perufors 1-6, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4. The best-of-five match competition is

being played in Prato, Italy.
Israel gained a stunning 2-0 lead over Czechoslovakia after Miloslav Mecir went down in four sets to Amos Mansdorf and injury forced Milan Srejber to retire in the fifth set against Shlomo

A nervous Mecir showed none of the form which propelled him to victory over the world's topranked player, Ivan Lendl, in the International Players Cham-

ion, skating like broadway dan-

For the third year in a row

Marina Klimová and Sergei

Ponomarenko were runners-up to

Canadians Tracy Wilson and

Robert McCall repeated as

bronze medallists, but with a

stronger performance this year.

By Charles J. Hanley

The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — Just 18

their teammates.

cers, won their third consecutive

NEW YORK (AP) - Defending Mansdorf won 6-4, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3. In other World Group matches Friday, it was Argentina 1, India 1; West Germany 1, Spain 0; France 2, South Korea 0; Mexico 2, Britain 0, and Chile 1, Commonwealth Caribbean 1.

> Wimbledon champion Boris Becker gave West Germany its first point as he outlasted Emilio Sanchez of Spain 6-4, 7-5, 5-7, 3-6, 6-3. The second singles match, between Eric Jelen and Spain's Servio Casal, was halted by darkness with Casal leading 6-4, 7-5, 5-7, 3-6.

> In New Delhi, India, veteran Vijay Amritraj lifted India into its tie with Argentina, downing Horacio De La Pena 9-7, 6-3, 6-3 after Argentina's Martin Jaite defeated India's Ramesh Krishnan 1-6, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2, 6-3.

Although France won both of its first-day singles matches in Marcq-En-Bareoeul, France, neither one came easily. Guy Forget stopped Jin Sun-Yoo 6-3, 5-7, 6-3, 6-3 and Thierry Tulasne needed more than two hours to defeat Bong Soo-Kim 6-4, 6-2,

France's top two players pionships at Key Biscayne, Flor- Yannick Noah and Henri ida last Sunday. A confident Leconte - are sidelined with

the rest 5.8s for technical merit.

Skaters from the Soviet Union

Bestemianova and Bukin's

strong victory Friday night left

them the favourites to win the

gold medal in ice dancing at the

The gold medallists finished

the three events in the ice dancing

1988 Olympics.

Andrei Bukin of the Soviet Un- ion. They received four 5.9s and

gold medals at the World Figure also won the gold and silver Skating Championships. also won the gold and silver medals in the pairs competition.

Six of the nine judges gave competition with 2.4 points.

injuries, although Noah may play in the doubles.

There were numerous zonal matches played Friday. The zonal winners will advance to the World Group in 1988.

In the Eastern Zone first round, the Philippines took a 2-0. lead over Sri Lanka, Hong Kong won both its singles matches against Malaysia, Pakistan jumped out to a 2-0 advantage over Bangladesh and Indonesia and China split its two first-day singles matches.

In a second round African Zone battle, Zimbabwe took a surprising 2-0 lead over favoured Kenya.

At Nassau, Bahamas, in a firstround American Zone match Bahamas, Chile's Ricardo Acuna whipped Douglas Burke of Jamaica 6-3, 6-3, 9-7 to give his country a tie with the Common wealth Caribbean team. Earlier, Bahamian Roger Smith outlasted Chile's Robinson Ureta 12-10, 7-5, 2-6, 7-5 to give the Common-

wealth Caribbean the first point. Mexico moved within a victory of eliminating Britain with Francisco Maciel beating Jeremy Bates 6-3, 6-2, 7-5 and Leonardo Lavalle taking Andrew Castle 6-2, 3-6, 6-2, 6-3, at Mexico City.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Lendl undergoes knee surgery

WASHINGTON (AP) - Tennis star Ivan Lendi underwess arthroscopic surgery in Los Angeles to remove torn cartilage in his left knee, his agent amounced. The native of Czechoslovakia who lives in Greenwich, Connecticut, suffered the injury in a second-round match at the International Players Championship in Key Biscayne, Florida, last week. The surgery was performed Wednesday. Solomon said Lendl will miss next week's Painewebber Classic in Orlando, Florida, and probably miss the Volvo Tennis-Chicago Tournament and the WCT finals in Dallas before returning to action.

Brazil to play 4 friendlies in Europe

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Brazil will play four friendly matches in Europe in May as part of the preparations for this year's South American Championship, scheduled for Argentina in June, the Brazilian Football Association (CBF) said. It said the Brazilians will play their first match against England at London's Wembley Stadium on May 19. The other matches will be against Ireland on May 23 in Dublin, May 26 in Glasgow against Scotland and May 28 in Helsinki, against Finland. Two other friendly matches are pending confirmation, on May 16 in Miami, against the United States, and on June 1, either in Copenhagen, against Denmark, or in Tel Aviv, against Israel, the report said.

Chinese body building contest to be held

BELING (AP) - The fifth Hercules Cup national bodybuilding contest will be held next fall in Tongling City in eastern China, it was reported Friday. Zeng Weiqi, director of the Body Building Sport Committee under the Chinese Weight-Lifting Association, said the sport had won the support of the general public in China, according to a report in the China News Service. Women body builders at the fourth Hercules Cup national body building contest, held in the southern city of Shenzhen last year, caused a furor when they wore bikinis for the first time. The attire was approved by the government so Chinese body builders would conform to international body building contest rules.

11 fans charged over ferry violence

HARWICH, England (AP) - Eleven soccer fans, arrested on a North Sea ferry last August, are to appear in court accused of fighting, theft and criminal damage, police said. Fighting broke out between West Ham United and Manchester United fans on the Dutch ferry Koningin Beatrix, which was taking the fans from Harwich to the hook of Holland for pre-season exhibition matches in the Netherlands. The incident was seen here as having a large bearing on this week's decision by UEFA, soccer's governing body in Europe, to keep English clubs out of European competition for at least another year.

.S. edges England in athletics meet

COSFORD England (AP) -The United States, sparked by a national-record performance by the 1,600-metre relay team, edged England in the sixth annual Kodak Classic indoor track and field meet, where two-time Olympic champion Sebastian Coe said he probably would not compete in the 1988 Games.

Clarence Daniel set a meet record in the 400 and ran the first leg of the U.S. relay quartet, which was clocked in 3 minutes, 6.01 seconds, .02 seconds faster than the U.S. mark set by the University of Southern California in 1980 and .11 slower than the world indoor best of 3:05.90, set by the Soviet Union in 1970.

In a meet full of second and third-string athletes, the biggest cheers went to the biggest hometeam names. And one of them, Coe, made big news.

Coe, the two-time Olympic 1.500-metre champion from England, took the 3,000 metres at 7:54.33, in his only appearance of the indoor season and received a standing ovation from the capacity crowd of 4,000 at Cosford Royal Air Force Base.

Afterward, he said lapses intraining this year had cost him

ST. TROPEZ, France (AP) -

France's Laurent Fignon won the fifth stage of Paris-Nice cycling

race but Ireland's Stephen Roche

retook the overall lead heading

Fignon won the 208-kilometre

(130-mile) stage between Toulon

and the French Riviera resort of

St. Tropez in 5 hours, 3 minutes,

54 seconds and received a 10-

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into the final two days.

second borrus.

France's Fignon wins 5th

stage of Paris-Nice race

valuable conditioning and that, plus a desire to get away from the 800 and 1,500 he has run in previous games, probably had en-ded his Olympic career.

"I'm 99 per cent not to go" to the Seoul Games, Coe said. "It's mostly because I don't particularly want to. I want to concentrate on 5.000 metres.

In an invitational race that did not count in the standings, Britain's Kirsty Wade set a Commonwealth recordin the women's 2,000, at 5:45.81 seconds. And Merlene Ottey-Page of Jamaica stumbled in the final stretch but still set an England all-comers record of 23.21 in the women's 200 invitational.

The Americans took the team championship by 75 1-2 to 73 1-2, starting fast and enduring a midmeet surge by the home team. They lead the series 4-2.

Daniel led from start to finish to successfully defend his title in 400, the first track event of the evening, with a time of 46.47 seconds, .05 faster than the mark he set a year ago.
The United States lead swelled

with victories in the 60 hurdles by Albert Lane in 7.82 and Olympic bronze medallist Thomas Jeffer-

Ireland's Sean Kelly, seeking

his sixth straight Paris-Nice vic

tory, was second, seven seconds

behind. A pair of Frenchmen,

Eric Boyer and Ronan Pensec

were next with Roche close be-

hind, all in the same time as

Roche moved into the overall

lead with an advantage of 24

seconds over Kelly. France's Jean-Francois Bernard, who was

first after the fourth stage,

finished more than two minutes

win comfortably over Kelly.

son in the 200 at 21.35. Jefferson had a shot at a double victory as he defended his 60metre crown, but England's Ernest Obeng shot out of the blocks and led all the way to win

That followed Coe's victory in the 3.000, just .01 slower than the meet record and personal best the

in 6.72, with Jefferson second in

English star set a year ago. Brian Abshire of the United States was second in 7:55.49 and Brian Diemar, a bronze medallist in the 1984 Olympic steeplechase, was third in 7:56.81.

Coe, who missed scheduled indoor appearances earlier in the season because of the flu, jetted into the lead on the first turn of the final lap, blazing the final 200 metres in 27.27. With a half-lap-to go, he turned his head to make sure no one was gaining on him.

The tide continued to run the English way in the 1,000, as Tony Mottell beat Elliott by five yards to win in

But in the 800, Randy Moore of the United States held off a strong charge from England's Andrew Myatt to win by three yards in 1:50.25.

The fight started fast and furiously with both boxers landing hard punches and Amand displaying a threateningly long

But in the second round a The Irishman made a break early in the race and built up a two-minute lead. He was joined by a group of five others. Figure made his move in the last mountain pass about 23 kilometres from the finish. He was able to

appearance in front of a noisy The next stage is a 163-kilometre (100-mile) section to hometown crowd. Mandelieu. The race ends Sunday with a stage to Nice and a time-trial up a mountain to the village of Eze.

Italy's Nati takes vacant

Valerio Nati took the vacant against France's Marc Amand in the second round of a scheduled

months before the Olympic torch is lit in Seoul, South Korea's rival political factions are entering the final, critical rounds in a worldclass bout of brinksmanship. The outcome of the match-up

between the military-dominated government and the main opposion party will set the moo the 1988 Seoul Summer Games and set South Korea's political course for years to come.

Some in the opposition talk ominously of Olympic disaster next year if the generals this year deny them the kind of permanent democracy they want.

"The Olympic Games would not be possible," one well-placed member of the opposition New Korea Democratic Party asserted in an interview. "The people of Korea would disavow the Olympics."

Knowledgeable observers are skeptical. Korean pride in staging the sports extravaganza would overwhelm any attempt at a boycott by the political opposition, they say.

But the U.S. embassy, always

influential here, is nontheless pressing both President Chun Doo-Hwan and his rivals to reach a compromise soon, to end decades of authoritarian rule and take the tension out of the Olympic countdown.

One proposal the Americans view favourably: establishing an interim, "reconciliation" government of all parties to guide this U.S.-allied nation of 41 million people through next year's nervous days in the camera eye of the world.

If Seoul's political plans are shaky, its Olympic preparations are solid. South Korea's ruling generals have taken on the task like a military campaign.

Across the half-mile-wide Han

Lloyd-Turnbull Soviets win gold medal in advance to ice dancing competition doubles final CINCINNATI, Ohio (R) — Bestemianova and Bukin perfect MARCO ISLAND, Florida (R) Natalia Bestemianova and scores of 6.0 for artistic impress-

--- Chris Evert Lloyd and Australian Wendy Turnbull survived two tiebreakers to advance to the finals of the \$400,000 Women's Team Tennis Championship doubles tournament. The second-seeded team of

Lloyd and Turnbull struggled to a 7-6, 7-6 semifinal win over unseeded American Betsy Nagelsen and Robin White.

Also advancing to the final were the unseeded team of American Lori McNeil and Bettina Bunge of West Germany,

rifles, already keep a close watch

on the idle Olympic Park, guard-

ing against anti-government stu-

dent protesters. North Korean

"Most Koreans regard the

Seoul Olympics as the most glo-

rious event in their 5;000-year-old

history," Park Seh-Jik, president

of the Seoul Olympic Organising

Committee, said in an interview.

onetime deputy director of the

national intelligence agency, said

he also hopes the 24th Olympiad

will be a "stimulus for political

Each side in Seoul's bitter poli-

Chun, a general who came to

power in a coup in 1980, has long

said he will step down when his

constitutional term expires next

tical debate is trying to turn the

international sports event to its

development."

advantage.

Park, a retired general and

saboteurs or other threats.

For South Korea, Olympics could bring political conflict The talks deadlocked late last year. Now, as time runs short, the two sides are manoeuvring into

final positions. The opposition hopes the generals' fear of political dismotion during the Olympics will soon force them into compromise. But many analysts believe the ruling group instead will try to convert popular support for the Olympics into a political blank check for

Some government partisans still worry about an opposition bovcott.

Noting that the government is counting on 72,000 volunteers to help run the Games, one official said, "if there's a boycott, and the people don't get involved, we won't be able to pull it off." Like others who either rely on the government payroll or fear arbitrary arrest, this informant asked

not to be identified. But others believe the security forces can easily keep any student protesters in check during the Olympics, and national excitement over the Game will strengthen Chun's hand politically, par-ticularly if Communist North Korea cooperates in staging the events, a possibility now being

negotiated.
"The Olympics are a tremendous force for the government side," concluded a U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity. "It's just too big a deal for the (opposition) to take

The Americans are still pushing for conciliation. Ambassador James R. Lilley, who has been meeting with opposition leaders, is said to favour the idea of an all-party interim government for the Olympic period, as proposed by the Korean National Party, a minor opposition group.

"Maybe that's the compromise we'll see a couple of months down the track," said the U.S.

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European title

FORLI, Italy (R) — Italy's European featherweight crown after the referee stopped his fight 12-round contest.

eft-hander from the 30-year-old Italian opened up a gaping cut under Amand's right eyebrow. The referee called in the ring doctor who judged the cut too serious for the bout to continue. Nati, the "Tiger of Forli," was making his 11th European

The European Boxing Union named Nati and Amand to fight for the title after it was left vacant in January by Jim McDonnell,

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lection of stadiums and gymna-

siums has taken shape. Only in-

door swimming pool and housing for Olympic athletes and the visit-

ing press remain uncompleted.

An eight-lane Olympic ex-pressway has been laid down

along the Han's southern banks.

Seoul's new subway system has

been extended. Some tile-roofed

slums, considered eyesores, have

Olympic tourists, the authorities

have even ordered restaurants

serving "health stew" - a tradi-

tional Korean favourite otherwise

known as dogmeat — to move to

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In the name of "stability,"

however, the unpopular presi-

dent initially sought to postpone

any political liberalisation until

after the Olympics. That would

essentially guarantee election of

his Democratic Justice Party's

presidential candidate by the ex-

But public pressure, including

an explosion of students demon-

strations, forced Chun last May

to agree to negotiations on consti-

tutional revision between his par-

ty and the New Korea Democra-

The opposition group, led by dissidents Kim Dae-Jung and

Kim Young-Sam, seeks a direct,

popular presidential election, one

general's Democratic Justice Par-

ty, on the other hand, now prop-

oses a European-style parliamen-

tary system, with a strong prime

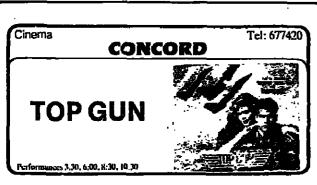
would probably win. The

isting electoral college.

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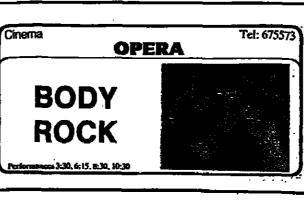
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Bahraini, Dutch firms form joint venture

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — ABC Investment and Services Co. E.C., a subsidiary of the Bahrain-based Arab Banking Corporation, and Kooijman Effectenkantoor N.V. a Dutch-based stockbroking firm, agreed to form a 50-50 joint venture, an announcement said Friday. The new firm, named ABC-Kooijman Capital Markets N.V., is to be based in Amsterdam, with an authorised capital of 12.5 million Dutch florins (\$6 million), said a press release. The firm will engage in a wide range of investment banking activities such as management buy-outs, mergers and acquisitions, securities underwriting, stock exchange introductions and money management, the release said. The new company will commence business in June.

IDB to lend Algeria \$9 million

JEDDAH (OPECNA) — The Islamic Development Bank (IDB) is to extend \$9 million loan to Algeria to help finance its cotton imports. The loan agreement, signed here last week, specifies that the imports come from an IDB member country. The accord was signed by IDB Vice President Ousmane Seck, with Mr. Saeed Mirsad, director general of the Algerian Cotton Industries Corporation, and Mr. Abdul Qadeer Humoodi, representing the Central Bank of Algeria. This brings total IDB assistance to the country over the past seven months to \$74 million.

Insurance firms lose on space mishaps

ROME (R) — The world's insurance companies have lost 400 billion lire (\$303 million) paying out on failed space projects, the president of one of Italy's leading insurers said last week. Mr. Enrico Randone, president of Assicurazioni Generali, told a conference that companies had earned some 800 billion lire (\$606 million) from premiums for space projects but had paid out damages of 1,200 billion lire (\$909 million). "In the last 10 years the international market has seen negative results for the sector, Mr. Randone told the conference on the insurance of commercial activity in space. "The situation got even worse in 1986 because of the Challenger disaster and other failed launches," he said.

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 15, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today can bring annoyances and upsets that require attention, so do them in a careful fashion. Later you are able to enjoy your surroundings and gain vitality.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Handle that myriad of tiny tasks and then make your surroundings more charming. Be with good friends.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You want to have a good time today, but little problems come up. Take care of these and all goes fine for you.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) The home situation is not pleasant, but say nothing. This will relieve tensions and all should improve there.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul 21) Be particularly careful while driving. Get rid of that moodiness and LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Find a more efficient way

of handling your daily duties. Study your property and plan any needed improvements. -VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get rid of that feeling :

of discontent and you can be with a charming group of friends for some fun. LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Get rid of a limitation

and later you can be with the one you love and be SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Concentrate on how best to be of assistance to a good friend who is having

a little trouble now. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) A worldly affair could be upsetting, but relax and it dissolves itself very

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A new interest may seem hard to get into, but later you can easily delve right

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) You want to get out of a promise you have made, but wait until later when the influences are much better.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Steer clear of an associate who is very talkative and likes to nag. Later you can be with persons you truly enjoy.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he, or she,

will always be looking for errors here and there and find them and correct them. He, or she, will be a perfectionist and be of great assistance to any employer. Send this one to the best schools and add psychology to better understand the motivations of others.

AMMAN (J.T.) — The following table summarises trading activities at the Amman Financial Market during the week starting Saturday, March 7, '87 and ending Wednesday, March 11, '87. (Figures in Jordanian dinars).

Bushing and financial hesitutions	week starting Saturday, March 7, '87 and ending	_	•	77. (Figures i	a Jordanian	dinars).
Industrial Development Bank	Name of company	Number of shares	Volume of trade			Par value
Industrial Development Bank			V		, , , , ,	
Petra Bank	Industrial Development Bank	50	64	1.280	1.270	1.000
Sordina Edward Beach	Petra Bank	6450				1.000
Sordina Gelf Etank	Jordan Islamic Bank	<u>122</u> 4	2566	2.100	2.100	1.000
Horning Bank	Jordan Kuwait Bank					1.000
Arab Jordan Immediated Bank	Jordan Culf Bank					1.000
Carlo Amman Beak	Arsh Iordan Investment Rank	1000				
Bank of Jordan	Cairo Amman Bank	141				5.000
Jordan National Bank	Bank of Jordan			22.000		5.000
Service Finance House for Development 32.50 24663 0.750 0.760 1.00 Indental Investment and Finance Corporation 790.00	Arab Bank					10.000
Islamin Investment House	Jordan National Bank					
Sorden Investment and Finance Corporation 7900 58889 1.620 1.500 1.500 1.700	Islamic Investment House	·	24003	0.750	V. 70U	
National Protein Securities 1259 17465 1.400 1.300 1.300 1.000 National Protein Securities 1.4481 3876 5.950 5.950 1.000	Jordan Investment and Finance Corporation	79050	85889	1.620	1.560	1.000
National Protefoio Securities 14481 876 0.590 0.590 1.000	Finance and Credit Corporation	50900				1.000
Dordon Scientifies Corporation 19000 9841 9.910 0.900 1.000 1.	National Portfolio Sermities	14491				
Arab Financia Corporation (Jordan) 102655 154804 1.300 1.460 1.000 1.0	Jordan Securities Corporation	10900	*			
Real Estate Financing Corporation	Arab Finance Corporation (Jordan)	102655				1.000
Designate and releaserance	Real Estate Financing Corporation		_	_	_	2.000
Sortine French Insurance	Al Mastrek Exchange	· -	_	_	_	10.000
REFCO Life Insurance						
Jordan Insurance	Jordan French Insurance					1.000
Arab Life and Accident Insurance 100	Jordan Insurance					1.000
Yammosk Insurance	Arab Life and Accident Insurance	_				1.000
Arabias Seas Insurance	Yarmouk Insurance and Reinsurance					1.000
Philadelphia Insurance	Arabian Seas Insurance	. 1000	1010	1.000	1.010	1.000
Arab Union International Insurance	Philadelphia Insurance	_	_	_	_	1.000
Petra Jordan Insurance	Arab Union International Insurance	_				1.000
Sordan-Gulf Insurance	Petra Iordan Insurance	113224	15548	1.320	1.350	1.000
Universal Insurance	Jordan-Gulf Insurance	38720	30227	0.790	0.780	1.000
General Insurance	Universal Insurance					1.000
Middle East Insurance	General Insurance	_	_	_		1.000
Al-Institute Insurance	Middle East Insurance	_	_	_	_	
Services and industries	Al-Izdihar Insurance	_	_	_	-	1.000
Darco for Housing and Investment	National Ahliya Insurance	1000	1300	1.280	1.300	1.000
Real Estate Investment (Aqurco)	Services and industries					
Management and Consultancy	Darco for Housing and Investment					1.000
1.000 1.00	Management and Consultance	25563	11248	0.440	0.440	
Jordan Leasing Corporation 1331 904 0.700 0.660 1.000	General Investment	. =	<u> </u>	=	_	1.000
Equipment Lessing & Maintenance/Ta*jeerco	Jordan Leasing Corporation	. 1331	904		0.680	1.000
Jordanian Electric Power	Petra Enterprises and Leasing Equipments					1.000
Arab International Hotels	Lordanian Electric Power					
Arab International Hotels	Irbid District Electricity	7500	. 100-10	1.400	1. 150	1.000
Garage Owners Pederation Office	Arab International Hotels	58425	26118	0.460	0.440	1.000
Jourdan National Shipping Lines 23800 21192 0.900 0.890 1.000	Garage Owners Rederation Office	· <u>-</u>		_	_	
Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing 32963 13827 0.430 0.420 1.000	Jordan National Shipping Lines	23800	21192	0.900	0.890	
Arab Pharmaceutical Manufacturing	Dar Al Shaab Press, Printing and Publishing				0.420	1.000
Intermediate Petrochemical Industries 10444 87137 0.860 0.860 1.000 Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intat) 7299 10730 1.470 1.470 1.000 Arab Chemical Detergent Industries 1824 8694 4.700 4.750 1.000 Arab Chemical Detergent Industries 31837 30573 0.970 0.980 1.000 Arab Aluminium Manufacturing 213953 312359 1.440 1.490 1.000 I.000 I.	Arch Pharmacentics Manufacturing					
Jordan Phosphate Mines	Intermediate Petrochemical Industries					
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Aladdin Industries	Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural (Intai)					1.000
Arab Ahuminium Manufacturing 213953 312359 1.440 1.490 1.000 Jordan Worsted Mills — — — — — — — — 1.000 Jordan Ceramics — 5629 5639 1.010 1.000 1.000 Chemical Industries — 2750 2982 1.090 1.090 1.000 Jordan Industries and Match (JIMCO) 44100 2009 0.490 0.480 1.000 Dark Al Dawa* for Development and Investment 4207 5785 1.380 1.370 1.000 National Steel Industries 125868 265435 2.160 2.100 1.000 Universal Chemical Industries 8400 7276 0.850 0.870 1.000 General Mining 2000 4115 1.800 1.750 1.000 Jordan Petroleum Refinery 2000 4115 1.800 1.750 1.000 Jordan Petroleum Refinery 2000 4115 1.800 1.750 1.000 Jordan Lime & Brick 50506 13405 0.270 0.260 1.000 National Industries 56630 38448 0.680 0.670 1.000 Arab Paper Converting and Tracking — — 1.000 Jordan Pipes Manufacturing 19750 24115 1.240 1.220 1.000 Jordan Pipes Manufacturing 19750 24115 1.240 1.220 1.000 Jordan Pipes Manufacturing 19750 24115 1.240 1.220 1.000 Jordan Rockwool Industries 10300 4183 0.410 0.410 1.000 Jordan Rockwool Industries — — 1.000 Jordan Rinesh Mineral — — — 1.000 Jordan Finesh Mineral — — — 1.000 Jordan Printing and Packaging — — — 1.000 Jordan Printing and Packaging — — — 1.000 Jordan Printing and Packaging — — — 1.000 Jordan Sindustries — — — 5.000 Jordan Sindustries — — — 1.000 Jordan Sindustries — — — — — 1.000 Jordan Sindustries — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —	A locking Industries					
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National Steel Industries 125868 265435 2.160 2.100 1.000	Dar Al Dawa' for Development and Investment	4207		1.380	1.370	1.000
General Mining	National Steel Industries					1.000
Jordan Petroleum Refinery 5252 36546 6.940 6.970 5.000 Jordan Lime & Brick 50506 13405 0.270 0.260 1.000 National Industries 56630 38448 0.680 0.670 1.000 Arab Paper Converting and Tracking 1000 760 0.720 0.760 1.000 Jordan Pipes Manufacturing 19750 24115 1.240 1.220 1.000 Rafia Industrial for Plastic Bags 1.000 Jordan Paper and Cardboard 1.000 Jordan Paper and Cardboard 1.000 Jordan Rockwool Industries 10300 4183 0.410 0.410 1.000 Trans-Jordan Minerals Research - 1.000 Jordan Hinneh Mineral - 1.000 Jordan Printing and Packaging 1030 1892 1.800 1.820 1.000 Jordan Printing and Packaging - 1.000 Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette - 1.000 Jordan Brewery - 1.000 Mas Industries 1.000 Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals - - 1.000 Jordan Spinning & Weaving 32350 29888 0.930 0.920 1.000 Jordan Subpho Chemicals 318772 726272 2.520 2.490 1.000 Jordan Cement Factories 92657 96213 1.040 1.040 Grand total 1,972,979 4,023,359	General Mining					
Jordan Lime & Brick	Jordan Petroleum Refinery					
National Industries	Jordan Lime & Brick	50506	13405	0.270	0.260	1.000
Total	National Industries	56630	38448	0.680	0.670	1.000
Livestock and Poultry	Tottlen Wooden Industries (IWICE)	<u> </u>	· - :	, a, l <u></u>	<u>-</u>	7.000
Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	Livestock and Poultry				0.760	-1:000
Jordan Paper and Cardboard	Jordan Pipes Manufacturing	19750	24115	1.240	1.220	
Jordan Rockwool Industries	Jordan Paper and Cardboard	_	=	=	_	
Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	Jordan Rockwool Industries	10300	4183	0.410	0.410	
Orient Dry Batteries Factory	Trans-Jordan Minerals Research	_			_	
Woolen Industries		_	_	_	_	
Jordan Taming	Woolen Industries	_	=	_	=	
Jordan Tobacco and Cigarette	Jordan Tanning	1030 .	1892	1.800	1.820	1.000
Jordan Brewery	Jordan Printing and Packaging	_	_	_	_	
Mas Industries — — 1.000 Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals — — — 1.000 National Cable & Wire Manufacturing 32350 29888 0.930 0.920 1.000 Jordan Spinning & Weaving 4000 2456 0.620 0.610 1.000 Jordan Industrial Investment Corporation — — — — — Jordan Sulpho Chemicals 318772 726272 2.520 2.490 1.000 Jordan Cement Factories 92657 96213 1.040 1.040 1.000 Grand total 1,972,979 4,023,359	Jordan Brewery	_	_	_	=	
Arab Center for Pharmaceuticals & Chemicals — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —	Mas Industries	. —	_	- .		1.000
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Grand total 1,972,979 4,023,359	Jordan Sulpho Chemicals					1.000
	Jordan Cement Factories	92657	96213	1.040	1.040	1.000
	Grand total 1.	972.979	4,023.359			
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Industrial nations must aid poor states, IMF chief says

WASHINGTON (AP) — The industrialised countries must keep their interest rates down and their markets open to imports if poor countries are to reduce their debts, the new head of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) says.

"We cannot have two standards of adjustment — one for industrial countries and the other for developing countries," Mr. Michel Camdessus said in a speech published in the March 9 issue of IMF survey. The speech was delivered at a symposium on Feb. 15 and provided to reporters

Mr. Camdessus, a Frenchman, took over in January as managing director of the IMF, which is owned by 151 governments.

Poor country debts are estimated at well over \$1 trillion. Brazil, the biggest Third World debtor, last month suspended interest payments on most of the \$108 billion it owes.

"Industrial countries can and should provide crucial support by following sound monetary and fiscal policies that are compatible with healthy non-inflationary growth of world demand, lower international interest rates, and an appropriate pattern of exchange rates," Mr. Camdessus

In addition, he said, they should roll back protectionist measures and provide increased official development assistance and export credits.

Mr. Camdessus said it would be difficult for debtor countries to their earnings from exports faster than the real interest rate on the

In recent years the main job of the IMF has been to organise loans for poor countries in financial trouble in exchange for adoptions by their governments of policies more favourable to private enterprise.

Mr. Camdessus echoed his predecessor, Mr. Jacques De Larosiere, and U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker in urging more loans to poor countries by commercial banks. Such countries are making major changes, he said.

"But this progress is put at risk when there is inadequate support and understanding from creditors - to say nothing about endangering their own claims on these countries," he added

Indebted Third World nations contend that in return for its help the fund imposes austerity policies that reduce living standards in countries where they are

L. American, Caribbean countries cannot repay debts

Meanwhile, the final document of a conference of Non-Aligned Movement countries meeting in Georgetown, Guyana said Friday that Latin American and Caribbean countries cannot repay their \$400 billion foreign debt and the smallest nations in the region should be exempted from debt service obligations.

"The foreign debt of Latin American and Caribbean countries can't be paid under current conditions," the conference's final document stated. Efforts to do so at the cost of economic and social development were under-mining the political stability and democratic inclination of the region, it said.

The document was moderate in tone and substance. It did not call for a repudiation of the debts, as Cuba has recommended, nor did it suggest that countries follow the lead of Brazil.

It also did not suggest that cut debts until they can increase member countries follow the example of Peru, which since 1985 has limited debt repayments to 10 r cent of its export earnings. Debt service repayments "should reflect the real capacity

> document said. The smallest countries for which exemptions were proposed were not identified by name.

of each country to repay,"

Delegates called for renewed meetings between debtor and creditor nations and international lending institutions. Most of the region's debts are owed to private

Venezuela, Argentina, and Cuba were among the countries that sent high-level delegations. The conference was presided over by Prime Minister Robert Mugabe of Zimbabwe, chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement.

On the other hand, the head of the Inter-American Development Bank said Friday that some Third World countries will default on their debts if commercial banks continue to take back more money in repayments than they

put out in new loans. "For the banks it's convenient to be repaid," Mr. Antonio Ortiz Mena, president of the bank, told a news conference. "But they have to take into consideration that to achieve that, the countries need to grow.

"If they don't grow, they won't be able to repay. So if the banks continue to extract money from the countries without permitting them to (borrow the money they need to) invest, the consequence is that later on there are going to be defaults," he said.
Third World countries, includ-

ing Mr. Ortiz Mena's native Mexico, owe well over \$1 trillion. Under older definitions, some are already in default although the default has not been officially declared. Bolivia, for example, has made no payments for years on a debt estimated at \$5 billion. Mr. Ortiz Mena said Brazil's action avoided a deterioration that would have inevitably led to

a long-term default. The bank, which is owned by 44 governments, calculates that since 1982 Latin American governments have been sending more money abroad than they have been receiving, a reversal of

traditional relations. The bank estimates that in 1984 the average Latin American produced \$1,758 worth of goods. Between 1983 and 1985, it found that more than four per cent of that — about \$60 per person was sent abroad.

Mr. Ortiz Mena cited two Latin American countries which have limited their foreign payments. Brazil and Peru, as having had the best records of growth last

Mr. Ortiz Mena said that Peru had the money to increase its investment and so was able to show growth.

"I don't know what's going to happen this year," he said. "But last year they put their money into investments and growth took

Most other Latin American countries had either stagnant economies or even had to reduce their living standards, he said.

Ecuador adopts austerity programme, reaffirms suspension of interest, debt

an earthquake that killed at least 300 people and disrupted the economy, Friday announced a tough austerity programme and reaffirmed its decision to suspend debt payments to private foreign

President Leon Febres Cordero, who has in the past made debt payment a matter of honour, said during a visit to the zone hit by the quake on March 5 that the country did ntot have the funds to service its \$8.16 billion debt. Presidency Minister Patricio

measures including budget cuts of up to 10 per cent, a government hiring freeze and reductions in salaries of top officials, including the cabinet and president.

An information ministry communique quoted the president as saying: "We have to ratify this suspension ... on debt service to the private international banks because physically and materially we don't have (the means) to pay. I'm not ashamed to say it, there definitely isn't a way to pay," he

QUITO (R) - Ecuador, hit by Quevedo announced austerity In January Ecuador suspended payments to private foreign banks, which hold two-thirds of its foreign debt, due to a slide in the world price of oil, Ecuador's main export.

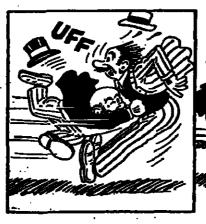
> President Febres Cordero said he had previously held that Ecuador was obliged to make debt payments when crude oil was at \$26 per barrel because the government had projected plans with crude prices at that level.

"All legitimate debt is a commitment of honour," he said.

Peanuts



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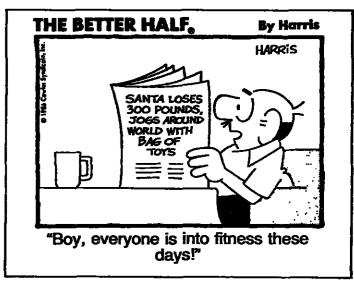
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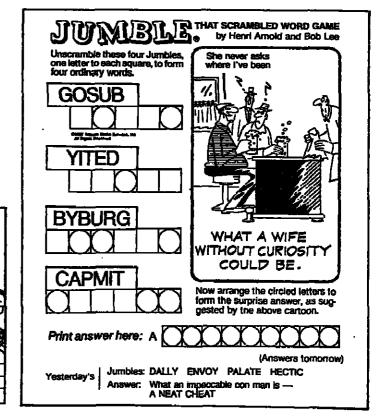
Mutt'n' Jeff











Kremlin assures Soviets 'past mistkes will not be repeated'

MOSCOW (AP) — The Kremlin told Soviet citizens Saturday that most of the work still lies ahead in building the nation into a vital economic power, but assured them "the past mistakes will not be repeated."

The address by the Communist unemployment, we do not have Party Central Committee headed national oppression and we do by Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev covered the front page of all major national newspapers and opened the hourly newscasts of Radio Moscow.

It was issued in connection with this year's 70th anniversary of the 1917 Bolshevik Revolution. An accompanying decree announced that preparation of the anniversary are under way.

address to the people heralded the accomplishments of socialism, declaring the revolution "the most outstanding event of the

20th century.

not have poverty and illiteracy, the lengthy address said. But it also alluded to "devia-

tions" from the path of development forged by Soviet founder Vladimir Lenin, including "violations of legality and democratic norms, manifestations of voluntarism, dogmatism and inertia."

Since Mr. Gorbachev became the Soviet leader in March 1985, The Central Committee's those deviations have been respectively ascribed to past leaders Josef Stalin, Nikita Khrushchev and Leonid Brezhnev.

"Now reorganisation is a fact of life, but the people may not We do not have exploitation flatter themselves with what has of man by man. We do not have already been achieved," the

charged they were shot by a firing

ary junta from 1976 to 1983.

Argentina was ruled by a milit-

The Argentine supreme court

unanimously rejected Friday

night a request by the country's highest military tribunal that it be

allowed to resume jurisdiction over trials of military officers accused of human rights viola-

The five supreme court justices ruled that request filed by the

Supreme Military Council, ques-

tioning the competence of civilian courts in trying military men, was

The ruling cleared the way for

federal courts in several cities,

including Buenos Aires, Bahia

Blanca, Cordoba and Mendoza,

to continue with trials and hear-

"manifestly improper."

work is still ahead.

"Are there guarantees that the work will get along, that the process of change will not stall, that the past mistakes will not be repeated? Yes. There are. The people are interested in reorganisation," the party leadership

Reorganisation is the term used to describe Mr. Gorbachev's campaign for broad changes in Soviet society that are aimed at accelerating economic growth and improving living standards.

The effort is being met by some resistance, as illustrated in frequent media reports about failure by many industries to meet their output targets or to produce goods that measure of up to tougher quality-control checks that began on the first of the year. Mr. Gorbachev, in recent speeches, has also referred to mination of them on earth.

have been made. Most of the who fear his reforms deviate from socialist principles.

> The Central Committee address may have been an effort to set out before the people an image of unity within the party leadership. It may also have been intended to dampen speculation among some Soviets that Mr. Gorbachev could face the same fate as Mr. Khrushchev if he tries to change the system too radi-

> the Central Committee on Oct. 14, 1964, after a slight cultural "thaw" and failed efforts to improve farm and industrial output. The address asserted the Kremlin is "demonstrating a realistic and flexible approach to international problems." It said the Kremlin will press for a ban on weapons in space and for the reduction and ultimately the eli-

Mr. Khrushchev was ousted by

6 killed, 1 missing in U.S. Air Force crash

SPOKANE, Washingon (R)—A west of Spokane, Capt. Ballew U.S. Air Force KC-135 tanker said. plane crashed at Fairchild Air Force Base during a training flight, killing at least six people,

an air force spokesman said. Five people on the plane and a serviceman on the ground were killed and another person on the plane was missing, Captain Bob Ballew said.

The plane crashed in an open field behind hangars at the base

The airplane normally operates with a crew of four. Airman 1st Class Teresa Tracy, a spokes-woman at the base, said she did not know why six were aboard.

Kathleen Binford, who was shopping at the base exchange, said she saw the plane dive to the ground and burst into flames after it had taken off and appeared to be turning.

Poll shows Nakasone's popularity has plummeted

TOKYO (AP) — A newspaper survey published Staurday indicates support for Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone has plum-metted to 25 per cent amid increasing criticism of his proposed new sales tax and more defence

The survey by the nationwide daily Asahi Shimbun said the number of people who back Mr. Nakasone, leader of the long-ruling Liberal Democrats, fell from 39 per cent of those surveyed in December to 25 per cent

That was the lowest point since Mr. Nakasone became prime minister in November 1982. The newspaper has conducted 22 public opinion polls since Mr. Naka- survey. The major gainer, some took office.

opposition to his proposed tax moved up to 24 per cent, the package and planned increase in highest in a decade.

the government's defence spending in the budget for fiscal 1987, beginning in April.

It said that the survey, conducted on Wednesday and Thursday, disclosed that 82 per cent of the 3,000 eligible voters polled opposed the proposed implementation of a 5 per cent sales

Sixty-one per cent were against the increase of the defence budget beyond a long-observed ceiling of 1 per cent of the gross national product, the survey said. Support for the Liberal Demo-

cratic Party slipped 7 per cent during the three-month period to 48 per cent, according to the according to the survey, was the has said. The newspaper attributed the largest opposition party, the sharp decline in his popularity to Socialist Party, which it said

Finnish Greens set for major election advances

HELSINKI (R) — Finland's "Greens," benefitting from the political fallout of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in the neighbouring Soviet Union, appear set for major advances in weekend parliamentary elections.

The environmentalists hold just two places in the outgoing parliament, but opinion polls say they could gain as many as 10 new seats in the elections, scheduled

for Sunday and Monday. In Moscow Friday, Soviet authorities said people held re-sponsible for the Chernobyl disaster will stand trial soon in Kiev, capital of the Ukraine.

fense. Therefore, we would make it as difficult as possible for the oppo-Environmentalist movements nents to get together. Our choice is a leap to four hearts—the same bid we would have made had there been have already benefitted from the "Chernobyl factor" in elections in West Germany and Austria, and Finnish Greens could find Q.5-As South, vulnerable, you themselves with a cabinet portfolio after the elections. ±AQ765 ∇9 ♦J3 ±109742

belongs to the outgoing centreleft coalition, told Reuters the Greens would be able to negotiate a cabinet seat if their vote increases five-fold; as the polls

organised themselves into an official political party but their leading ideologist, academic Osmo Sominvaara, said the group could consider joining a future coalition

The polls predict a close finish to the elections, with any com-bination of left-centrist-conservative coalitions still possible. Greens supporters say other ecological disasters in Europe, like pollution of the North Sea

and the Baltic and chemical pollution of the Rivher Rhine, has strengthened their position.

But they admit that Chernobyl, only 1,200 kilometres from Hel-sinki, has prompted a massive boost in support for environmentalist movements demanding that reliance on nuclear energy is curbed.

Juha Pentikainen, vice-president of the Centre Party, which Prime Minister Kalevi Sorsa's Social Democratic Party, Finland's largest, and gains for the Centre and national coalition parties but the forecasts are that the Greens will make the biggest

U.S. vows to continue fight against organised crime

ities have vowed to continue their fight against organised crime after the unexpected acquittal of a man accused of being one of New York's mafia bosses.

John Gotti — who prosecutors said was the head of the Gambino crime family — and six co-defen-dants were found innocent Friday of conspiracy and racketeering

charges.
Mr. Maloney said he was disappointed by the verdict. We live in a country of rules and procedures and our criminal

"This verdict in no way affects

pursue those who terrorise our community and violate our laws." The acquittal of Gotti cause as a blow to authorities who recently

won convictions against four of New York's five crime families in the "Pizza connection" drug smuggling case. So confident were prosecutors

would help fight the mob that Rudolph Guiliani, chief of federal prosecutor in New York City, predicted the end of the mafia in

making it easier to win convictions but sociological changes in the Italian-American community made the mafia less attractive,

CIA reportedly obtained advanced Soviet copter

NEW YORK (AP) - The CIA bels in Afghanistan have been has obtained at least one of the able to shoot down many MI-24s Soviet Union's most advanced helicopter gunships, enabling the United States to learn ways of countering the aircraft's defences, according to a broadcast

At least one of two MI-24 Hind-D helicopters flown into Pakistan by defectors from the Soviet-supported Afghan army in 1985 was turned over to the CLA, NBC nightly news reported, quoting unidentified Pentagon SOUTCES.

The sources said the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) has figured out how to "outsmart" the defensive system of the MI-24 by making changes in the Stinger anti-aircraft missile for use against it, NBC reported. As a result, the network said, intelligence specialists report that re-

over the past six months

A CIA spokeswoman, Sharon Foster, asked about the NBC report, said: "We would not confirm or deny an alleged intelligence activity.

The MI-24 Hind-D is currently the Soviet Union's most advanced chopper gunship and is referred to by the Pentagon as a "flying tank." It is heavily armed and armoured, capable of speeds approaching 200 mph, and considered a significant threat to ground forces.

According to Jane's All the World's Aircraft, the MI-24 is a twin-engine helicopter that carties a four-barrel Gatting gun in an undernose turret and various types of rockets and missiles mounted on "wings."

Remains of Filipino rebel execution victims found

DAVAO, Philippines (R) — Villagers dug up skeletons of seven more alleged victims of rebels now helping the military-rebel executions in southern Phi- He said that, based on their lippines Saturday and the military said the number of bodies found could rise to 200 from the current toll of 70.

The seven were dug from shallow graves in the foothills of Buhangin, a village on the fringes of the former rebel stronghold of Davao city, Lieutenant-Colonel Frank Calida, district military commander, said.

Col. Calida, accompanying journalists to the site, told Renters discovery of the seven - two of them women — brought the toll of bodies found in the past two weeks to 70, adding that the seven appeared to have been buried about six months ago. He said the 70 remains, scat-

tered in eight villages on the city's outskirts, were those of so-called deep penetration agents of the military or civilians suspected by guerrillas of being military infor-

Local Communist leaders said last year they were "cleansing their ranks of military infor-

Col. Calida said authorities were led to the graves by former reports, authorities expected to exhume a total of 200 bodies.

A church-backed human rights organisation this month denounced the military's exhumation of bodies as a publicity stunt.

The military has blamed the killings on the New People's Army (NPA). Col. Calida said the rebels have been driven out of the city by vigilante groups.

Davao city was one described

as a "laboratory" for Communists in conducting urban guerrilla warfare. It has now become a testing ground for anti-Commun-ist vigilante groups which the military says comprise a few thousand civilian volunteers. It was not known how many were

Military authorities have endorsed the formation of similar vigilante groups throughout the country but human rights groups have asked the government to stop the military from using them in the counter-insurgency cam-

Amnesty seeks freedom for women in U.S. jail laws that "directly facilitate the

HARLINGEN, Texas (R) Amnesty International has begun a worldwide letter-writing campaign to seek the release of a pregnant Texas woman jailed for helping Salvadoreans enter the United States illegally, a spokes-

Steve Herrick told reporters Stacey Lynn Merkt, a 31-year-old lay church worker, is the first to their war-torn homeland. prisoner in the United States to group since 1979.

statement it believed Merkt had been convicted of breaking U.S. cial system."

violation of human rights." A federal jury sentenced Merkt in February 1985 to six months in jail and three months probation for conspiring to transport illegal

Herrick said Merkt helned Sal vadoreans migrating to south Texas in the belief they faced torture or death if they returned

Omer Sewell, district director be adopted by the London-based of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalisation Service (INS) in Amnesty International said in a Harlingen called the campaign "an insult to the American judi-

Chile criticises U.N. **Human Rights Commission**

SANTIAGO (R) — Chile's military government has dismissed criticism of its human rights record at the annual meeting of the U.N. Human Rights Commission as hypocritical and political.
"I believe this result reflects

the high degree of political influ-ence in the vote, as well as hypocrisy and injustice," Foreign Minister Jaime Del Valle told

reporters Friday. The 43-nation body, meeting in Geneva, unanimously approved Thursday a Mexican motion

saying Chilean authorities were ineffective in preventing mistreat- in the light of the vote.

ment of civilians. The motion also said authorities had not properly investigated and prosecuted "those responsible for numerous unresolved cases of murder, abduction, disappearance and torture."

The commission had earlier rejected by a narrow margin a U.S. resolution accusing Cuba of holding up to 15,000 political pris-

Mr. Dei Valle said Chile would have to reassess its policy of cooperation with the commission

Global plan urged to give women more say in politics

Party candidate for vice president in 1984, called on women leaders from 42 nations to design a "global blueprint" to give women a greater role in politics.

Ms. Ferraro said in a speech at the first Eleanor Roosevelt International Caucus of Women political leaders that "more women in government would mean stronger voices on issues that impact grea-

ter on women." She noted that women hold only 5 per cent of the offices in the world's democracies.

"We are here together in San Francisco to design a global blueprint to change that." Ms. Ferraro said, "We are here to define practical ways women can play a greater role in the political life of their countries."

The participants in the threeday gathering include cabinet members from several countries, ambassadors, lawyers and members of national legislatures and parliaments.

Ms. Ferraro, a former member

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — of the U.S. House of Representa-Geraldine Ferraro, Democratic tives, said she hoped the conference would spur creation of an office that would allow women political leaders around the world to work together more effec-

"Hopefully, this will be the beginning of a future for women in policy-making positions," she Philippines President Corazon

Aquino said in a videotaped message that she found it "consoling and reinforcing to know that there are forums like this cancus and that in the male-dominated fields of government and statesmanship, I am not alone."

Victoria Chitepo, Zimbabwe's minister of natural resources and tourism, said she hoped the conference would provide concrete suggestions for "strategies to assist the effective role of women in politics and government."

She said she was one of only two women among 26 ministers in Zimbabwe's cabinet but regarded that as an achievement for such a young republic.

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Stolen gold sold back to owners

LONDON (AP) - Jeweier John Palmer meited down gold stolen in Britain's biggest robbery and then sold it back to its unsuspecting original owner, a prosecutor told the opening of Palmer's trial. Palmer, 36, and co-defendant Christopher Weymen, 35, have pleaded not guilty to handling gold bullion in connection with the November 1983 robbery of a security depot at London's Heathrow Airport. Six gummen escaped in vans laden with more than 3 tons of pure gold, then worth \$39 million. Authorities have recovered only 11 of the 6,800 stolen gold bars. Prosecutor Nicholas Purnell told the central criminal court that Paimer controlled the sale of stolen bullion back onto the legitimate market by melting it down with other precious metals to disguise it. "The very losers were deceived into buying back the gold, believing it was genuine gold for sale on the legitimate market," the prosecutor said.

U.K. opens tunnel to save lives of toads

HAMBLEDEN, England (AP) — On a damp and misty morning in the Thames River Valley, Lord Skelmersdale stood in a muddy field with a toad in his hand to open Britain's first purpose-built toad tunnel. The 10-inch (25-cm) diameter underpass under a busy country road will save the nocturnal creatures from being crushed by traffic. "I'm delighted to open something that is the very first. It's a unique occasion," said Lord Skelemersdale, parliamentary under-secretary of state for the environment. He applauded the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society for "getting this project under the ground" outside Hambleden village, 56 kilometres west of London.

Voyager 2 changes course

PASADENA, California (R) — The spacecraft Voyager 2, more than three billion kilometres from Earth and speeding towards the planet Neptune, fired its thruster rockets to avoid a possible collision in space. Everything seems to have gone well and Voyager 2, which has already flown past Jupiter, Saturn and Uranos, should fly within 5,000 kilometres of Neptune on Aug. 24, 1989," a spokesman for the Jet Propulsion Laboratory said. Instructions were sent to the spacecraft several weeks ago, telling it to fire its hydrazine-fuelled thrusters, small manocuvring rockets, so it could avoid smashing into any rings of boulders, rocks or pebbles which may be circling Neptune, the spokesman said. The mid-course correction took 70 minutes and increased the speed of Voyager 2 by 32 kph, to 69,690 kph, the spokesman said. The Jet Propulsion Laboratory runs the U.S. unmanned space programme for the National Aeronautics and Space

2 more teens commit suicide in U.S.

CHICAGO (R) — Two teen-age girls have killed themselves here in an apparent suicide pact similar to one that took the lives of four east coast youngsters two days ago. The deaths have set off an anguished look by Americans at teenage suicides, the second biggest killer of young people in the United States after car crashes. The bodies of Nancy Grannan, 19, and Karen Logan, 17, were found in the Chicago suburb of Alsip. They were in a car with the engine running in the closed garage of Logan's home.

New AIDS blood test reported

ZURICH (R) - A Swedish virologist reported a new AIDS blood test using synthetic antigens that would be much cheaper and more reliable than existing tests. Anders Vahlne said the test, developed at Gothenburg University, was so accurate that it would eliminate the need for a second test, usually done to double-check those found to be "AIDS positive" - that is, with AIDS antibodies in their blood. Vahlne said the test could be on the market in four to eight months. A small Swiss firm helped to finance it. Trials on 400 infected people and 1,000 "AIDS negative" volunteers had a remarkable 100 per cent accuracy rate, Vahlne said.

Morticians charge extra for AIDS victims

SAN FRANCISCO (R) — Some morticians in the San Francisco area charge up to \$300 extra to handle the bodies of AIDS victims, the San Francisco Examiner newspaper has reported. In a survey of more than a dozen funeral homes, the paper discovered that many morticians absorb extra costs associated with AIDS victims, but some add fees for equipment used in such cases, including rubber gloves, face masks and scrub suits. Norm Nickens, of the city's Human Rights Commission, called the extra charges outrageous and blamed them on irrational fears about the disease. Dr. George Rutherford, medical director of the San Francisco AIDS Office, said no cases of acquired immune deficiency syndrome transmission have occurred due to embalming procedures.

Locusts off the menu in Thailand

BANGKOK (R) — Thai gournets will have to do without their favourite hors d'oeuvre in coming weeks. Locusts are off the menu nationwide. But the tasty insects would be unwise to relax. as they now face a slow death from sprayed insecticides in a new anti-locust drive to help farmers starting on March 21. Locusts killed by insecticides will be unfit for human consumption, Agriculture Ministry officials warn.

U.K. to mint new 'Britannia' gold coin

LONDON (R) - Britain plans to mint and market a new series of bullion coins, including a one-ounce (28.3-gramme) piece of 24-carat gold to be called the "Britannia," a treasury official has said. The new investment coins, to be sold worldwide from next autumn, will fluctuate in price according to the international price of gold. The smaller coins will be in denominations of a half ounce, a quarter ounce and a tenth of an ounce. Britan's only other gold coin at present, called the sovereign and weighing 0.2354 ounces, has been minted since 1817. It is now sold for investment purposes. The Britannia will feature a portrait of Queen Elizabeth I on one side and on the other the figure of Britannia, a seated female figure seen as the personification of Britain holding a trident and the national shield.

Sex hormones linked to high blood pressure

NEW ORLEANS (R) — Scientists have found that young men and women with high sex hormone levels are more likely to suffer from high blood pressure as they grow older. People with relatively high levels of sex hormones — testosterone in men and progesterone in women — will probably suffer from high blood prosesure as they age, according to the study by a team of researchers at Louisiana States University Medical School. Larry Webber, a member of the research team, said scientists do not yet understand why correlation exists.

Marines banned from red-light district

GENOA, Italy (R) — U.S. Marines on a visit to Italy's northern port of Genoa have been banned from the bars and nightclubs of the red-light district, a Sixth Fleet spokesman said. He told Reuters that part of the city had been declared off-limits to Marines from the USS Spartanburg County and USS Newport at the suggestion of Genoa police. Both the spokesman and the police declined to give reasons for the ban, setting off a flurry of speculation by bar and nightchub owners who linked it to everything from fears of AIDS to anti-terrorism measures.

to testify on rights abuses BUENOS AIRES (Agencies) — An Argentine general has refused ing transfer orders for the prisoners. The army said they died trying to escape but relatives have

Argentine general refuses

to testify on human rights violations during military rule and defended the government's actions during the "dirty war" in which 9,000 people disappeared, court sources said

Gen. Juan Bautista Sasiain told the court in Cordoba, north west of Buenos Aires, that the trials of military officers charged with human rights violations were a continuation of the leftist revolution, they said.

The sources said the court

would probably order Gen. Sasiain's preventive arrest pending trial on Monday. Gen. Sasiain was called to testify in connection with the death in October 1976 of 13 prisoners held in a jail in Cordoba, where Gen. Sasiain was head of the army's Fourth Airborne Infantry

once chief. ings involving approximately 200 military officers.

Brigade. He later became federal

counselor to head Intelsat WASHINGTON (AP) — Dean has 113 member nations. Intelsat Burch, a former Republican owns and operates 16 orbiting national chairman, counselor to

Former U.S. presidential

President Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford, was chosen to become director general of Intelsat. Mr. Burch, 59, was selected over candidates from Brazil, Australia and Finland for the post by the board of directors of the International Telecommunications Satellite Organisation (Intelsat). The appointment is subject to ratification by the Intelsat's

assembly of parties next month, the agency announced. Mr. Burch, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission from 1969 until 1974, will become the chief executive and legal representative of the comsatellites which help form a worl-

dwide communications system. The Comsat Corp., the U.S. signatory to Intelsat, nominated Mr. Burch last month. Comsat Chairman Irving Goldstein, in a statement released by the company, said "Burch has demonstrated a clear understanding of the challenges facing Intelsat and he's an excellent choice to take charge of that organisation and lead

A .- You have a hand of great of-

fensive power but little or no de-

it through these difficult times." mittee from 1964 to 1965. A decade later, he served as counsel to Mr. Nixon and then, after Mr. Nixon's

munications cooperative, which resignation, to Mr. Ford.

Mr. Burch, a communications lawyer for 30 years, was chairman of the Republican National Com-

GOREN BRIDGE BY CHARLES GOREN

ANSWER TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South The bidding has proceeded: North East South
1 ♣ 1 ♦ ?
What do you bid now?

₽AQ1052 The bidding has proceeded: South West North East Pass I ♠ Pass Pass 2 NT Pass What do you bid now? A .- With your distribution, no

partner has not rebid with only three low cards. Q.2-As South, vulnerable, you 2AKJ3 ♥7 ♦A1092 ♠KJ98

Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one spade. What action do you take?

A.—Back in the Old Country they dispensed good advice: When the opponents bid your best suit, pass. You can't double or bid no trump with your singleton heart, and to overcall with two of a minor on a weak four-card suit asks for

Q.3-As South, vulnerable, you **△A8 ♥K76 ◇AKQ763 ◆K8** Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one spade. What

action do you take? A.—If you have a gambling disposition, you might try three no trump, but we would prefer that you held a seventh diamond, or the jack as well, for such action. Our choice would be to double, intending to remove any bid partner might make to no trump at the same level. That invites him to go on to game if he

has a smattering of values. Q.4-Both vulnerable, as South you hold: QJ1097652 **≎93**

trump doesn't look appealing as a resting place. Therefore, you should simply continue to describe your hand, and three clubs serves the purpose nicely. Three spades is

worth considering, but you don't really want to support a suit that The bidding has proceeded: North East South West

1 Pass 1 Pass

2 NT Pass 3 Pass 3 NT Pass ? What action do you take? A.—Don't repeat your story. Your bid of three clubs told partner that you hold nine or ten black cards and would prefer a suit contract to no trump. Despite that, partner chose to bid three no trump. Since he knows your hand while you know

> Q.6-Both vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠83 ♥95 ♦J6 ♠AQ107632 The bidding has proceeded: North East South INT Dble ?

little about his, it would be foolhar-

dy to question his judgment by bid-

What action do you take? A .- Stronge as it might seem, we suggest you bid three no trump! Your hand rates to produce seven tricks, and you hope partner can come up with two more before the opponents get five. Then isn't redouble better? Yes, if you are going to play there. But the odds are that the opponents have some contract, probably in a major, and perhaps even a profitable sacrifice against three no trump. Your bld makes it more difficult for them to locate

The pledge by U.S. Attorney Andrew Maloney came after

justice system and the jury have spoken," he said.

NEW YORK (R) - U.S. author- our determination to vigorously

that tough anti-corruption laws

the United States within 10 years. He said not only were new laws